

LAST WEEK'S
AVERAGE DAILY SALE
439,000

No 63,188

SAS soldiers deny being 'press ganged'

Inquest told troopers wanted to tell story

● SAS marksmen who shot and killed three IRA terrorists in Gibraltar have denied their evidence was orchestrated
● Soldier D, last member to give evidence at the inquest, said they wanted to tell the story right
● He rejected suggestions from the lawyer for terrorists' families that he had acted as Lord High Executioner
● Mr M, security officer, confirmed soldiers' evidence that Mairread Farrell did not raise hands as if to surrender

By Tony Dawe

The SAS team involved in the shooting of IRA terrorists in Gibraltar said yesterday that they were determined that people should know the full story of what had happened and had therefore been eager to appear at the inquest.

As the last member of the seven-man team completed his evidence, they emphasized that nobody had "press ganged" them and that their evidence was the fact.

The statement was clearly designed to end speculation that the SAS soldiers had been forced to appear to spare the Government further embarrassment over the shootings.

It was also to counter claims by lawyers representing the families of the three terrorists that their accounts were so identical that they must have been made up.

The statement was made by an SAS trooper known only as Soldier D, who after completing his evidence, faced the jury and told them: "I would just like to say that all the soldiers from A to G appeared here because we wanted to come."

didn't stop and his hand went down towards the pocket in his hip area.

"Uppermost in my mind at the time was that a bomb had been left in the Ince's Hall car park. I believed Savage had a detonator and was going to detonate that device.

"I had to make a decision. There was gunshots to my left rear, a threat to people around me and to C and me. It was milliseconds I had to make a decision."

SAS warning.....5

here. We were never press ganged to be here. We wanted to give our evidence and get the story right.

"The facts of the day were what we have actually said and we have been pleased to come here to give you people our evidence."

In his evidence, Soldier D had described the "milliseconds" in which he had to decide whether to open fire at one of the terrorists and how he had to push a woman out of the way first.

He told the inquest that he fired nine bullets at the terrorist, Sean Savage, and carried on firing until he was on the ground and could not possibly detonate by remote control the bomb believed to be in Gibraltar.

Both Soldier D and Soldier C, who gave his evidence in chief on Wednesday, faced hostile cross-examination from Mr McGorry. Headed three main themes, the first being to ask the soldier why he had shot a warning at Savage and had not just got close enough to put a pistol to his head.

The soldier replied that Savage had been alerted by the gunfire behind them and said that they had ordered him to stop before they began firing. "He didn't have much time to stop, did he?" Mr McGorry asked Soldier D. He replied: "To my mind he had more than enough time."

The soldier added: "If Savage had stopped, I tell you he would be alive now." The remark brought a harsh

TOMORROW IN COLOUR

● In news from home and abroad, political commentary, coverage of business and personal finance, the arts, sport, leisure and more, tomorrow's four-section, full-colour Times contains the best weekend reading.



● To mark the centenary of T. S. Eliot's birth, The Times next week publishes the extracts from the first volume of his collected letters, edited by his widow. Tomorrow she talks about her lifelong devotion to the poet.



● Virginia Long is among Britain's best hopes for gold in Seoul. The first week of the XXIVth Olympiad is the subject of a full six-page guide tomorrow, introduced by David Miller.

For more details of Saturday's four-section full-colour Times, turn to page 3

Masked gunmen hold family hostage overnight



Police officers releasing one of the bank employees locked in a vault at the Preston branch of the National Westminster for more than three hours yesterday.

Gang seizes £300,000 from bank

By Peter Davenport

Masked gunmen held a bank manager, his wife and his teenage daughter hostage overnight and locked his staff of 61 in a vault before escaping with more than £300,000 yesterday.

Armed police laid siege to a branch of the National Westminster Bank in Fishergate, Preston, Lancashire, for two hours before finally ordering in a trained assault team.

It was only when the team broke into the bank through a rear door that it was realized the gang, consisting of at least three gunmen, had fled almost two and a half hours earlier.

Yesterday Detective Superintendent Barrie Walmsley, the officer in charge of the

investigation, said of the robbery: "It was an exceedingly well planned operation."

The gang had apparently monitored the movements of the bank manager, Mr Roger Ball, aged 45, for some days before the robbery.

Mr Ball left his office at the busy, town centre bank soon after 6.30 on Wednesday evening to walk to his car, parked near by.

He found one of the vehicles' tyres was flat and as he moved to the rear of the car to get the spare, two masked men jumped out of a van and blindfolded, gagged and bound him.

Mr Ball was bundled into the back of the van, which drove off to the Morecambe



Mr Roger Ball, bound, gagged and blindfolded. Old Golf Course, close to Mr Ball's home.

The bank manager was ordered to telephone his wife, Jean, telling her to allow the attackers into his house.

The two men held Mr Ball,

his wife and their daughter, Vanessa, aged 13, at gunpoint throughout the evening and into the early hours of yesterday.

At 4am, the three were bound, gagged, hooded, bundled into the boots of two cars and driven the 35 miles back to Preston.

Soon after 5am, the cars pulled up in a side street close to the bank and Mr Ball and his family were taken to a room above an empty shop.

There they were held until just after 9am, when the gunmen marched Mr Ball into his bank. He was ordered to tell his staff that a robbery was about to take place and ask them to go into the bank's large vault, which, as part of the bank's security system,

was opened by an automatic timing release, not keys.

At 9.30am, Mr Ball was ordered to let more members of the gang, armed with a sawn-off shotgun and a hand gun, into the bank.

The gang then bundled what police described as "a substantial amount of money", believed to be at least £300,000, into bags.

Mr Ball too was then locked in the vault. A grill was shut, but the main steel door was left open to allow air into the room.

Meanwhile, Mrs Ball had managed to struggle to a window overlooking the

Continued on page 22, col 1

US battens down as Gilbert bears down on Texas coast

By Our Foreign Staff

Millions of Americans were preparing last night for what is expected to be the worst storm to hit the United States this century as Hurricane Gilbert bore down on the Gulf coast.

With winds of 175mph, the storm is capable of repeating the extraordinary damage it has done throughout the Caribbean. Moving at 15mph, it could threaten Brownsville, Texas, or Galveston, or even, possibly, New Orleans.

The storm has been gathering strength as it passed over the Gulf of Mexico and thousands have been fleeing from its path.

"This is still the biggest, most destructive storm that many of us have ever seen", Mr Martin Nelson, of the National Hurricane Centre in Miami, said. "People in Gilbert's path should take immediate action to protect life and property." The hurricane has taken at least 26 lives in the Caribbean and left up to 500,000 homeless in Jamaica, with at least 100,000 homes destroyed.

The storm was expected to crash home on mainland United States early today near Brownsville.

"We're not taking any chances. This looks like a

monster coming in," a police official said in Port Isabel on Padre Island, Texas, which lies in the path of the storm.

US aircraft monitoring the storm were instructed to take special precautions because Soviet aircraft were also in the vicinity carrying out similar tasks. "Our planes and the

Soviets will be there at the same time and there is an agreement that they will maintain radio contact to avoid problems", Mr Nelson said.

As the Gulf area prepared for the worst, Jamaica began, with the help of nearly 200 Royal Navy sailors, to try to rebuild after its worst natural disaster in modern history.

With the first British holidaymakers of an estimated 1,000 trapped there returning from the island, Captain Paul Canter, of HMS Active, which had sped to the stricken area, told The Times by radio: "With a disaster of this scale we shall want to do whatever we can. There still remains a great deal to do in addition to what the island authorities can do for themselves."

Most of the ship's crew were

deployed as soon as the ship reached the island. While her helicopter was used for surveillance and evacuation from areas still cut off and a medical team tried to reach the injured, the men sent ashore tried to help the suffering by providing food and clothing for the homeless.

Yesterday, the frigate put ashore several parties on Grand Cay, but it was decided later to switch efforts to Kingston.

A second Royal Navy vessel, the auxiliary tanker Oak Leaf, is also heading to Jamaica to help with the operations.

About 470 holidaymakers flew into Manchester yesterday on the first commercial flight to leave since the hurricane struck. Today a second flight is expected with some of the island's remaining 500 British tourists.

"Everything seemed to be moving; I thought there was an earthquake", Mrs Samantha Fowler, of Crook, Co Durham, said. "It took three to hold the door shut while we piled furniture against it."

At the height of the hurricane hotel windows were

Big sorting offices vote to go back

By Roland Rudd, Employment Affairs Reporter

The national post strike had all but ended last night as the key sorting offices in London and Glasgow voted to return to work after local management and union officials negotiated a formula to deal with the backlog of letters.

Mr Bill Cockburn, Managing Director of Royal Mail letters, said last night: "It is excellent news for millions of our customers. It is becoming increasingly clear that those few offices still on strike are out of step and I urge them to join with the others."

The Post Office is now confident that postal services

will quickly return to normal since more than a third of all the nation's mail passes at some stage through the capital.

Pockets of resistance to the return are confined mainly to letters.

the North-East. Only 20,000 out of the 140,000 postal force are still on strike. Last night talks were taking place at Romford, the only London sorting office still in dispute.

After a meeting of the 35-man Union of Communica-

Continued on page 22, col 7

Government set to outlaw steroids

By Martin Fletcher and Howard Foster

The Government yesterday signalled its determination to make the possession of anabolic steroids without a medical prescription a criminal offence although the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs failed to endorse the proposal.

Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary at the Home Office, announced that his officials are to begin consultations with pharmaceutical, medical and other relevant bodies on bringing anabolic steroids within the control of the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971.

Proposals would render those who imported, supplied or possessed steroids without proper authority liable to stiff penalties if convicted, and would be a direct response to growing public alarm about the abuse of these drugs by sportsmen and bodybuilders.

A series of articles in The Times has disclosed wide-

spread selling and importing of steroids in Britain, and a Commons motion calling for them to be made illegal has been signed by 183 MPs.

At present the use of steroids has been banned in most competitive sports but is not illegal. Mr Hogg said: "I believe the time may now be right to think in terms of making anabolic steroids subject to the kind of controls already applicable to dependence drugs."

The Times investigation uncovered a complex international network of dealers with a turnover of tens of millions of pounds a year.

The investigation found evidence of large-scale crime, tax and customs evasion, the theft of valuable drugs needed to help sick children and confirmation that those who use steroids to improve sporting performance risk serious illness or death.

Hurd reveals aims of new TV laws

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Britain's commercial television "map" is to be left untouched by the Government and ITV companies will be subject to far less red tape in the 1990s, it was disclosed yesterday.

Cabinet ministers have resisted pressure to include proposals in the forthcoming broadcasting White Paper about slimming down the existing 15 franchise areas — and instead will leave the

delicate task to the Independent Broadcasting Authority's successor body.

Mr Hurd, who promised the White Paper would be "coherent, comprehensive and controversial", is well aware of the backbench fury which would have been provoked in the Commons if the Government had suggested amalgamating smaller ITV regions like Border, Grampian and TSW into bigger areas.

The Home Secretary, speaking at Yorkshire Television's annual lunch held in London,

said that although there were some significant points still to be cleared up about the White Paper "the basic decisions have been taken so far as the Government is concerned". He hopes to publish it at the end of next month.

"The White Paper will emphatically not be a blueprint of the future of British broadcasting. We have long passed the stage where Government should seek to lay down what the viewer and listener want or should be allowed to have."

Continued on page 22, col 3

Doctors explain cervical cancer smoking link

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

British doctors have found the cause of the hitherto unexplained link between smoking and cancer of the cervix. In research published in today's issue of The Lancet a team from two leading London hospitals and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund say that smoking destroys cells which play a vital role in enabling the body to resist attack by chemicals and infections.

A similar mechanism may place smokers at a higher risk of contracting skin cancer.

Dr Jack Cuzick, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Laboratories, in London, said the link had not been pursued until recently because it

seemed so biologically implausible to link inhaling smoke into the lungs with an increase in a disease of the cervix.

The new study involved a comparison between normal healthy women and those with signs of a precancerous development detected by cervical smear tests. Using biopsy material, the scientists have found that all the samples taken from women who smoke, both healthy and with signs of the precancerous stage, have significantly reduced numbers of Langerhan's cells which are found in the skin and linings of the body and which provide the first line of defence against attack by poisons and infections. Their job is to alert the immune system to respond to the attack and

their absence by smoking lowers the resistance of the cervix, making the individual more vulnerable to attack from the human papilloma virus that causes the disease.

The investigation was made by Mr Albert Singer, Dr Simon Barton and Dr David Jenkins, of the Whittington and Royal Northern hospitals and Dr Cuzick's group. Their results show more than a third of the protective cells are lost among women who smoke 20 cigarettes a day.

The human papilloma virus is found widely in otherwise healthy but sexually active women, and smoking acts as a "co-factor" that triggers the progression to a precancerous stage.

There are more than 2000 deaths a year in Britain caused by cervical

cancer, and the number should be halved by stopping smoking.

● Lives saved: The lives of more than a thousand women a year are being saved by advances in breast cancer treatment according to a leading expert.

Professor Robert Rubens, director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund breast unit at Guys Hospital, said the death rate was being cut for the first time in 50 years.

The fall in the death rate is achieved by the wider use of anti-cancer drugs after operations or in conjunction with radiotherapy.

Professor Rubens was speaking at the launching in London of a new video about breast cancer, called One Woman in Twelve.

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FOR THE ADVENTUROUS

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Girl, 11, blinded by dog disease

More than 200 children at a school in Christchurch, Dorset, have been banned from eating or playing on the school's sports field at lunchtime after a girl aged 11 was blinded in one eye after contracting toxocariasis, a disease spread by dog excrement. The move came a month after Rachel Hall, aged seven, a girl from Blackpool, Lancashire, was awarded £5,000 by the local council after contracting the disease in a public park and losing the sight in both eyes.

Neither the name of the junior school in Christchurch nor the name of the pupil who picked up the parasite has been disclosed by health authorities in Dorset. The headmaster said yesterday: "When our pupils returned for the start of the new term, it was obvious that people had been using our fields to exercise their dogs through the summer".

It is estimated that at least 600 children a year suffer eye infections after contracting the disease, carried in parasitic eggs deposited in dog excrement in public places.

Rural studies centre

A new Centre for Rural Studies was opened yesterday at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, to teach countryside management. It marks a recognition by Britain's oldest agricultural college that farming must now be placed in the context of wider social and economic issues. The centre will be staffed by researchers in land management, sociology, geography, economics and environmental studies. As well as undertaking research, it will accept commissions from government agencies, local authorities, land agents, planners and developers.

Bulldozer remand

A man was accused at Nottingham yesterday of bulldozing a branch of Barclays Bank. Wayne Alder, aged 20, of Ashland, The Grove, Milton Keynes, charged with criminal damage and taking a vehicle without the owner's permission, was remanded on bail on condition that he lives at home and stays away from the bank branch at Arnold, Nottingham.

Change at BBC news

BBC Nine O'Clock News is to have an American-style anchorman from the end of next month, it was announced last night. Martyn Lewis and Michael Buick are to share the role of single presenter seven days a week when the flagship news programme is relaunched on October 31. The news slot is to be extended to 30 minutes every evening. The two presenters will work an alternating shift system with one working four days a week and the other three.

Pilot died in air prank

A trainee pilot was dive-bombing a friend in another plane seconds before they crashed in mid-air, a Civil Aviation Authority report said yesterday. Witnesses saw Thomas Passmore, aged 17, a pupil of Wellington School, Somerset, diving and "dog fighting" as he flew alongside Ben Jordan, also 17, of Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, the report said. Mr Passmore died when his Piper Tomahawk crashed into a copse at Longdon, near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, but Mr Jordan managed to stay in control of his aircraft.

End of Piper Alpha

The wreckage of the Piper Alpha oil platform, which exploded last July with the loss of 167 lives, is to be blown up. Occidental, the operators, said yesterday. The destruction will be carried out later this autumn after ending the search for the 113 missing bodies. All that will remain will be a 250ft stump in water nearly 500ft deep. Work on raising the main accommodation section, where most of the missing bodies are thought to be, is expected to begin next week.

TUC vote on unemployment programme brings swift response

Government ends Training Commission

By Roland Rudd
Employment Affairs Reporter

The Government yesterday announced that the Training Commission will be abolished in order to end the TUC's role in running the £5 billion Employment Training programme for the 600,000 long-term unemployed. The move was last night condemned by both wings of the Labour movement.

After the TUC's vote at its annual conference last week to withdraw support from the training programme and start a policy of non-co-operation, Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday said he had no alternative but to sever its last influential link with the elected government of the day.

Any change in the commission's status or composition requires legislation, which Mr Fowler said he

The GMB union yesterday announced that it has signed a single-union agreement with Star Micronics in south Wales, after a contest with four other unions. Mr Jeff Burns, the regional organizer, made clear that the union had not offered a no-strike clause and had beaten off a challenge from the electricians. Coming so soon after the expansion of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union from the TUC over its refusal to withdraw from two single-union, strike-free agreements, the company was reluctant to talk about the disputes procedure at the new plant, which is aimed at

would introduce at the "earliest possible opportunity".

However, in order to bring an immediate end to the TUC's involvement, Mr Fowler announced his decision to transfer the powers of the commission to a new executive agency within the Department of Employment with immediate effect.

All the commission's programmes, including the Youth

Training Scheme and TVEI, will now be centralized under government control. Mr Roger Dave, the director general of the commission, will report directly to Mr Fowler.

"The TUC's instruction to withdraw support from ET has destroyed the tripartite basis of the commission," he said. "It is managerially impossible to ignore the inescapable consequences of that decision. It left

the Government's biggest training programme in the hands of three committee representatives committed to opposing it."

Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow Secretary of State for Employment, called it a "vindictive and destructive act which sabotages all prospect of a properly planned and integrated training system for the unemployed". Mr Norman Willis,

TUC general secretary, condemned the move, calling it a "gross over-reaction" to the unions' decision to withdraw their co-operation from ET.

"The Government has struck a blow at the effectiveness of the our national training effort as a whole. This hasty decision is wrong and we will lobby hard against it. Training programmes are only a success with the cooperation of all the parties."

Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, last night blamed the Government move on the "TUC's abysmal own goal". He said his union would not join other unions in "irresponsibly turning their backs on the long-term unemployed" and added that he was willing to help in the training programme in any way.

England leads US in car theft

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Car thefts in England and Wales are at a higher rate than in the United States, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, disclosed yesterday.

"The crime rate in America, particularly for violent crime, is far worse than our own," he said in Witney, Oxfordshire. Yet for car thefts the reverse was true. Taking population into account the United States had only two thirds the car theft rate of England and Wales.

"It is surely intolerable that police time and police resources, which should be concentrated more and more on deterring and catching violent criminals, should instead be gobbled up by the need to record and investigate thousands of crimes to do with property which might easily have been prevented", Mr Hurd said.

The latest crime figures, for the 12 months ending in June, recorded 378,000 offences of theft of a motor vehicle or its unauthorized removal and 659,000 thefts from a vehicle.

Mr Hurd said that the overall figures, which showed a 0.6 per cent drop in crime over the previous corre-

sponding 12 months, were welcome but were still too high.

"There are far too many relatively minor, property-related crimes in this country which could be prevented. About a quarter of all household burglars enter their victim's home through an open door or window. One in five of us who are drivers regularly park our cars unlocked."

Mr Hurd said the Home Office Crime Prevention Centre was about to issue a manual of guidance on how architects, planners and developers could contribute to crime prevention when designing a new building or estate.

Advice would be given on points of access, external lighting, and the siting of car parks and garages.

The British Standards for security of buildings against crime, for lighting, for doors, windows, roofs and for burglar alarms would be listed.

Mr Hurd added: "We are talking to the car makers about their responsibility to design vehicles and radios which are harder to break into or steal".

Fire test on model of escalator

By Ronald Faux

Scientists set fire to a scale model of the King's Cross escalator and burning hall yesterday to discover more about how flames behave.

The result of the experimental blaze at the Explosion and Flame Laboratory of the Health and Safety Executive near Buxton, Derbyshire, added another piece to the jigsaw of cause and effects underlying the tragedy last November in which 31 people died.

Mr John Barton, deputy director of the laboratory, said test fires in the one-third scale model of the Underground system would help the official inquiry into the disaster and give guidelines to the designers of enclosed shopping malls or stations.

"It has added another dimension to our knowledge about how fire behaves in these circumstances", Mr Barton said. The experiments in the model, which is encased in sheet steel, have proved that fire rising up an escalator shaft is subject to a "trench effect", climbing the steps rapidly rather than rising vertically, the usual course for unconfined fire.

Account was not taken of the effects of the underground system, the type of paint covering the walls of the escalator or the debris beneath it. Once a fire develops momentum, debris, drafts and



Scientists preparing the model of the King's Cross escalator (Photograph: Chris Harris).

paint had little influence.

That was borne out by the tests. A small fire on the lower steps of the escalator, at about the point where the King's Cross blaze is thought to have begun, took hold of the wood-

work and within seconds flames were standing upwards, accelerating fast. By the time the red glow at the head of the escalator had become a roaring inferno the fire was travelling at more than six metres a

minute and corkscrewing against the ticket hall roof. From the first whisp of fire to an inferno generating temperatures of more than 600 degrees centigrade took little more than three minutes.

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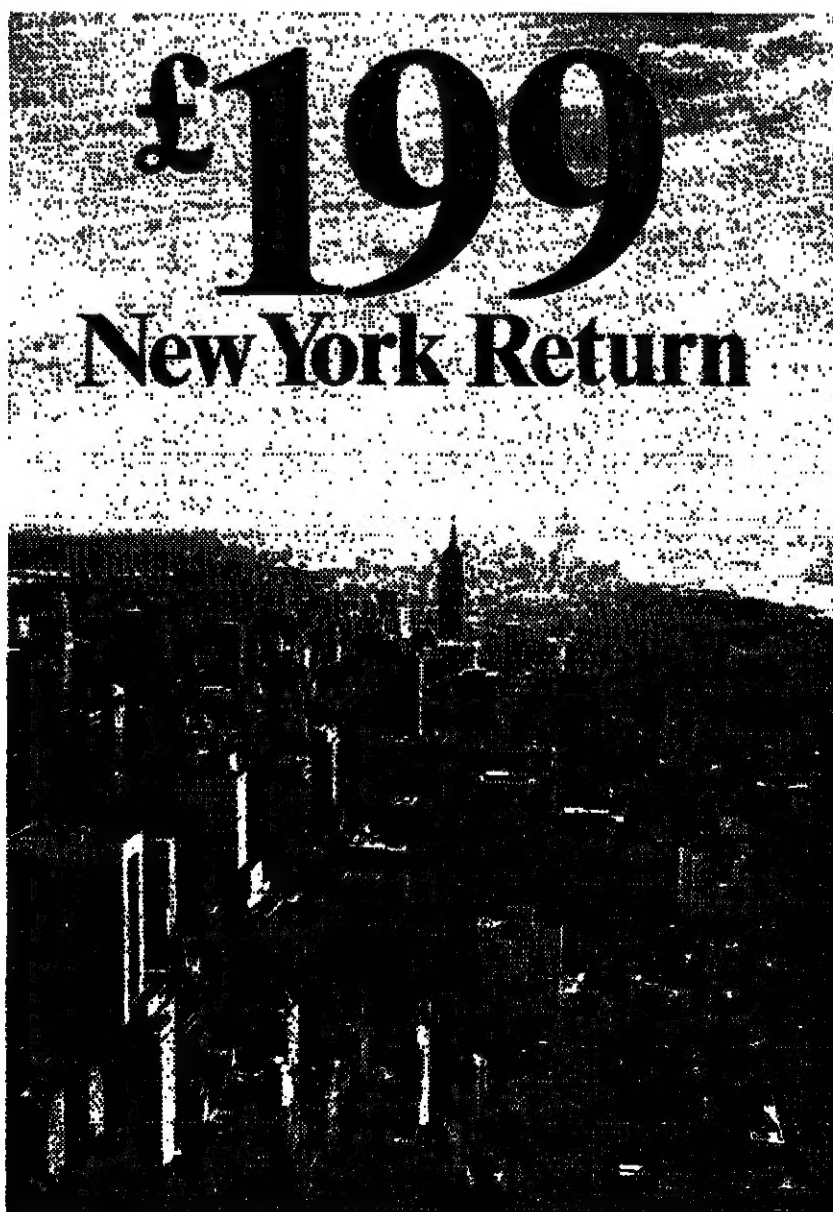
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Drug gang jailed for smuggling cannabis worth £4m into UK

By Michael Horsnell

A rock musician who master-minded a £4 million drug smuggling ring and his girlfriend, a vicar's daughter, were both jailed yesterday.

The pair were condemned by Mr Justice Mans-Jones at Cardiff Crown Court for the "misery, poverty, corruption, ill health and even death", they had caused through their drugs trade.

Peter Welch, aged 49, and Delyth Davies, aged 27, enjoyed a life of luxury in London until cannabis worth £4 million was landed on a secluded beach in west Wales.

About 100 Customs and police officers were hiding at Aberbach Beach, near Fishguard, when seven gang members landed the 1.5-ton cargo from Morocco. Detectives had tracked Welch's group for a year.

Welch, who led a double life as a rock musician and drugs baron, was singled out by Mr Justice Mans-Jones as the ringleader in the smuggling operation.

The judge said he was satisfied Welch led Davies into the evils of widespread cannabis and cocaine dealing in London and other parts of the country.

"Without you she would never have become involved in this foul trade", he said.

Welch, with addresses in Swansea, Portugal and Chislehurst, south-east London, was found guilty of five charges, including smuggling cannabis and possessing cocaine with intent to supply it, and sentenced to 22 years.

He was also ordered to forfeit £67,000 or face another

two years in jail. Welch was aiming for international stardom with an album called *Just for the Crack* when he was arrested.

Davis, a former art student who became a cocaine addict after meeting Welch and becoming his mistress, blew a kiss to her parents as she was led from the dock after being sentenced to 14 years on charges of smuggling and possession of cocaine with intent to supply the drug.

Although the judge said she had been corrupted by Welch, a man old enough to be her father, she was willingly his "Girl Friday" and the gang's accountant.

"You became a very competent manager of the day-to-day affairs of this organization", he said. "You were living in luxury, surrounded by minders and assistants. You knew perfectly well what you were about and the terrible consequences of your actions."

Her father, the Rev John Davies, of Manordeifi, Dyfed, comforted his wife Frances, as their daughter was led away.

Dennis Wheeler, a sales manager, aged 36, of Seymour Street, central London, who was found guilty of smuggling, was sentenced to 12 years and ordered to pay £50,000 prosecution costs.

He was an international cannabis merchant responsible for financing, organizing, and shipping the cargo into Wales, the judge said.

Wheeler had substantial amounts of money concealed abroad from his drugs business, but the profits could not

be seized in this case because the new Drugs Trafficking Offences Act was not in force at the time of the gang's arrest in November 1986, he said.

He fled from Canada after smuggling cannabis on a yacht in August 1982. Scotland Yard has a warrant from the Canadian authorities for his extradition.

Robert Delbos, aged 38, captain of the 70ft Minou that carried the drugs, and Barry Scott, aged 31, a builder, of Mitcham, south-west London, a member of the Aberbach shore party, were each sentenced to 12 years.

Four men who pleaded guilty to drug-smuggling at the start of the trial received lesser sentences. Kim Buckley, aged 44, a motor trader, of Llandysul, Dyfed, and David Jeffrey, aged 28, of Newcastle Emlyn, Dyfed, were each jailed for seven years.

Two of the Minou crew rescued by waiting officers when their drug-laden dinghies capsized in rough seas were each given 30 months' imprisonment, but were released yesterday after spending nearly two years in custody on remand.

The judge said Neil Franks, aged 32, and Robert Turnbull, aged 35, both of no fixed address, had not greeted their rescuers with much enthusiasm but should count themselves lucky to be alive after being abandoned in the water by the rest of the gang.

A known British drugs middleman, living in Spain, is still being sought in connection with the Aberbach haul, which will be destroyed.

Prince's call on film standards



The Prince of Wales, seen showing his delight after watching a western on an early moving-picture machine, spoke out against television violence yesterday at the opening of the Museum of the Moving Image in London, saying it was "palpable nonsense" that it had no effect on people's behaviour (Andrew Billen writes). He told guests at the opening ceremony of the film and television museum that it was not difficult to draw comparisons with the standards which

used to exist throughout the film-making profession. "For instance, do we have to tolerate an incessant menu of utterly gratuitous violence on both cinema and television — especially television — and most particularly videos? Those of us with children are very concerned by the appalling lack of restraint shown by those who make such films and videos. He added that those who complained were told there was absolutely no proof that violence on television had any effect

on people's behaviour. "But that, as we all know, is palpable nonsense." The Prince, patron of the British Film Institute, said there was an attempt by "so-called experts" to confuse ordinary people so they felt they did not know what they were talking about, and that what they were seeing was merely an illusion. He had earlier unveiled a plaque in honour of Mr Yue-Kong Pao, who donated £1.5 million towards the £12 million costs of the museum.

Scientists to make 'seal plague' check on otters

Scientists are to examine whether the canine distemper virus that has killed 11,000 seals in the North Sea — more than 700 of them along the British coast — could spread to the otter.

Although no instance has been recorded, the otter is

known to be susceptible and scientists from the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology are conducting a survey on Shetland of Britain's biggest otter population of more than 1,000. Otters and seals coexist there and if it is found that the virus can be transferred, an

emergency programme of inoculation is likely.

Dr Mike Harris, deputising for Dr Hans Kruuk who is leading the research programme, said yesterday: "No one knows what the effect would be of this virus on the otter but there is concern.

There are not many places where otters and seals get together."

The Government is to fund further research on the impact of pollution on seals, Lord Calthness, Minister of State for the Environment, announced yesterday.

Police beat man, Dahl says

By Peter Mulligan

Ronald Dahl, the writer, told a court yesterday how he saw a police officer "delivering straight lefts" into the face of a handcuffed man in Hyde Park, central London.

He said he saw a group of five officers in a semi-circle around a man who was backed up against a van. "When the punches were being delivered, he was trying desperately to protect his face with his handcuffed arms by raising them", Mr Dahl said.

The author, aged 72, was giving evidence at Bow Street Magistrates' Court on behalf of Errol Barton, aged 27, a plasterer of west London, who denied assaulting a policeman and cruelly treating a police dog. Both charges were dismissed.

Mr Dahl said: "Another punch was delivered to this extremely bloody face and I

shouted: "What has he done for heaven's sake". After another punch or two the man sank slowly to the ground, almost certainly unconscious, but I cannot vouch for that.

"Immediately four or five policemen pounced on top of him and a rather repulsive mêlée took place, a sort of punching and kicking of an object beneath them."

The police had then lifted Mr Barton up and thrown him like a "sack of cement" into a police van, Mr Dahl said.

His own feelings were at the sight were as deep and emotional as he had ever felt in his life, he told the court.

"I have been through the war and seen some nasty things but still don't feel that I have ever seen anything quite as nasty as this. I thought I was probably in South Africa or somewhere," Mr Dahl said he

had always supported the police.

The court was told that Mr Barton had been stopped in his car by two officers who asked why his tax disc was out of date.

An argument began when they tried to arrest him because of an outstanding warrant.

After reinforcements were called a dog handler "leashed" him with a police albatross which he kicked because it advanced as if to bite, he said.

The court was told that Mr Barton had a previous conviction for assault on police and had also been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for causing actual bodily harm to police in February.

PC Stephen Jenkin, the police van driver, told the court: "At no time did I see any officer kick or punch."

Wife 'ambushed in bed with vicar'

A husband burst into his wife's bedroom and photographed her in the arms of the vicar who had wrecked his marriage. Exeter Crown Court was told yesterday.

Jon Clive Crawshaw, a bus driver, broke into his estranged wife's new home at 2am and the flash on his camera woke the couple as they slept together.

Mr Crawshaw's wife Dagmar, aged 39, told a jury of the raid on her home as she finished giving evidence about a later incident in which her vicar lover was attacked on her doorstep.

Mr Crawshaw, aged 46, of Green Lane, Exeter, denies assaulting the Rev Ian Hollin last September at his wife's

home in Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

Mr Hollin, aged 47, of Park Place, Exeter, has told the court he was bundled into a flower bed, kicked and punched.

He has admitted having a two-year affair with Mrs Crawshaw.

He has now split up with his wife and has been forced to resign his job as vicar in charge of church music at Exeter Cathedral because of his affair.

Mrs Crawshaw yesterday told how her husband had photographed her in bed with the vicar in April last year, a month after she had moved to Budleigh Salterton.

Asked if she had been

photographed in bed with Mr Hollin, she replied: "Yes. Crawshaw had been to the house on several occasions making a nuisance of himself and causing trouble."

Then she told of the 2am incident.

Mrs Crawshaw, who works at the cathedral bookshop in Exeter, rejected suggestions she had twice tried to run over her husband in a car.

Mr Crawshaw, in his evidence, denied even being in Budleigh Salterton on the night of the attack.

He told the jury he did ambush the couple in bed to get evidence for his divorce proceedings.

The hearing continues today.

Cuban shooting

Defectors 'still in Britain'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The former Cuban intelligence officer and his girlfriend who are believed to have played a leading role in trying to persuade the expelled Señor Carlos Medina Pérez, the commercial attaché, to defect to the West, are understood to be still in this country.

Señor Florentino Azpillaga Lombard, who now works for the CIA, and Señora Martha Hernández Plasencia, aged 23, are believed to have been used

by British and American intelligence organizations in a joint operation to entice Señor Medina Pérez to defect.

He had known both Señor Lombard and Señora Plasencia in Havana. Señor Lombard was a major in the Cuban intelligence agency, DGI, and Señor Medina Pérez, while officially a commercial attaché in London, is also known to be an intelligence officer in the same organiza-

tion. Yesterday Cuban officials in London said that Señora Plasencia had not worked for the Havana government.

She met Señor Lombard while he was posted in Prague as an intelligence officer. They defected together by crossing over the border into Austria in June last year.

Yesterday an official at the Cuban embassy said that it was not known whether Señora Plasencia had married Señor Lombard.

Witnesses to the shooting incident on Monday outside the flat belonging to Señor Medina Pérez in Sussex Gardens, west London, were unable yesterday to identify the woman, seen running from the car containing MI5 officers, as her.

It is expected that Señor Lombard and Señora Plasencia will soon return to Washington, DC, after the failed attempt to persuade Señor Medina Pérez to come over to the West.



Señora Martha Plasencia and Señor Florentino Lombard, who allegedly tried to persuade the Cuban official to defect.

TOMORROW IN COLOUR

● In tomorrow's four-section, full-colour Times:

The motorcade decade

● In the week when the Pope travelled by motorcade through South Africa, Clifford Longley assesses 10 years of John Paul II.

Plus...

A rambler's guide to Forbidden Britain; a visit to the forgotten side of Rome; the chance to win a holiday for two in Hong Kong; and a wealth of advice in Family Money.

WIN £206,000

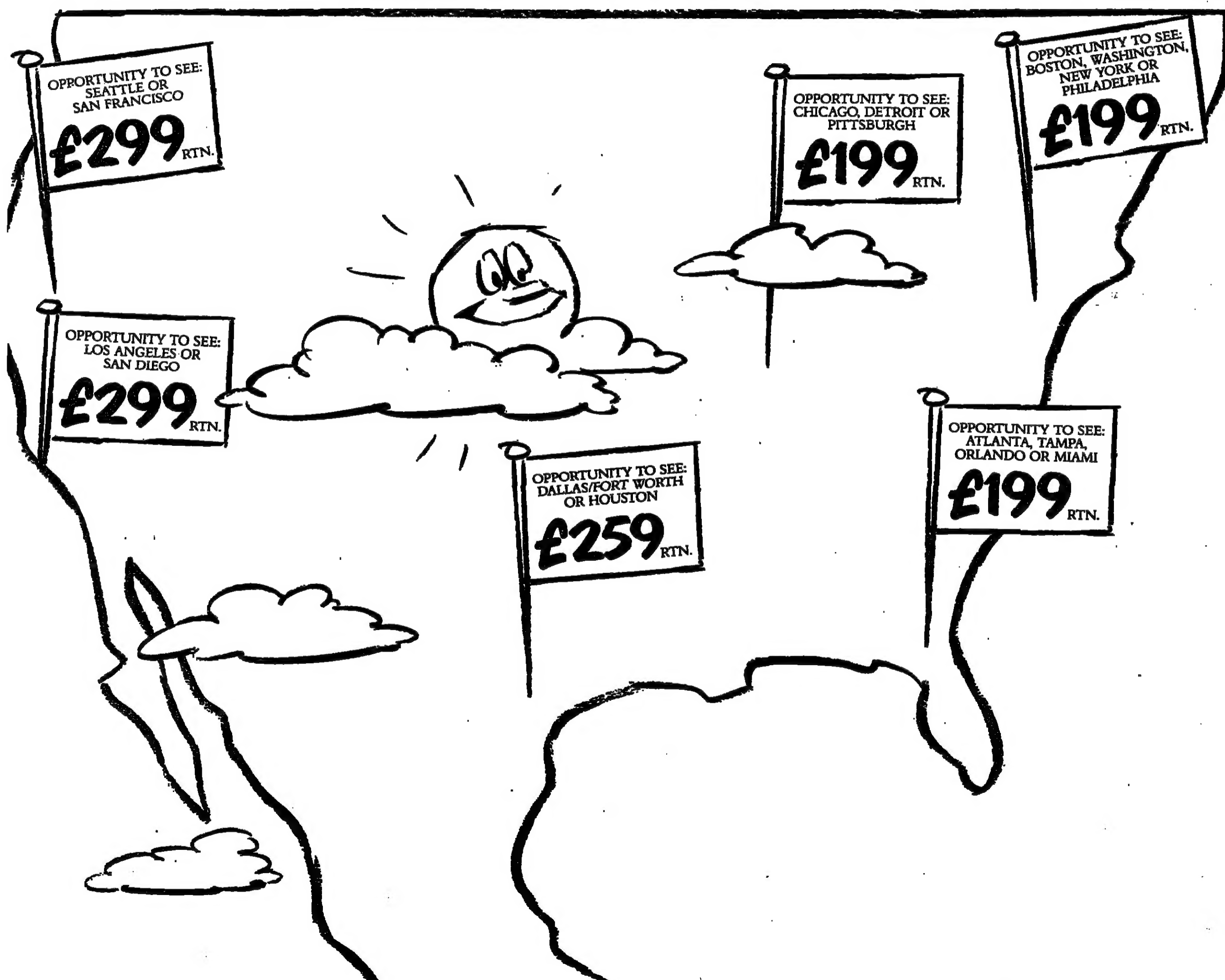
Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

● Mr Stewart Laws, aged 39, an excavator driver from Guiseley, West Yorkshire, won a half share in yesterday's daily Portfolio prize of £4,000, and will spend some of it on cream teas when his family goes on holiday in Cornwall. The other winner was Mr Richard Symes, from Tavistock, Devon.

● The Accumulator fund stands at £206,000.

Prices: page 31

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Soldier says he shouted 12-word warning and then fired six times at Savage

SAS heard siren seconds before shooting

A waiting police siren was heard seconds before SAS marksmen in Gibraltar shot three IRA terrorists, the inquest was told yesterday.

Soldier C said he and Soldier D were following Sean Savage after he separated from Mairiad Farrell and Daniel McCann on March 6.

Savage was carrying newspapers that could have concealed a transmitter.

Then Soldier C heard a siren and, looking over his shoulder, could see a blue light

flashing. He assumed it was a police car. That was before the shooting started at the Shell garage where Farrell and McCann were killed.

Soldier C shouted out to the court the warning he said he gave to Savage: "Stop, police, hands up, get down, hands above the head, stay still".

The SAS marksmen told Mr Felix Pizzarello, the Gibraltar coroner: "Once we had achieved that we would have got policemen on the scene to effect the arrest".

However, Soldier C added that when Savage turned, "he adopted to me what was a threatening position, what we know as a CQB", a close quarter battle stance. He said that was not a crouched but a slightly tipped position.

Under repeated questioning from Mr Patrick McGrory, representing the families of the terrorists, C insisted he had believed at the time

Savage would press a bomb button and detonate a car bomb in the town centre.

The soldier told the eighth day of the inquest into the terrorists' deaths that he fired six rounds at Savage, a known bomb-maker.

Savage corkscrewed one way and then the other. Some of the shots could have gone into his front and side and possibly in the back. As Savage started falling and rocking backwards - as his head approached the ground - C stopped firing.

He denied standing over Savage and firing more bullets into him.

The inquest has been told there were stripe marks on the ground within the area chalked around Savage.

Mr McGrory asked Soldier C: "Does that not indicate to you there was a gunman standing over him?"

C: "I don't know, sir. Sir, we did kill him. But it was to prevent him from moving to initiate the bomb."

Mr McGrory: "Is that the standard of minimum force that is taught to you?"

C: "It was within the rules of engagement."

Mr McGrory: "Did you place your feet on Savage's chest and fire some bullets into him?"

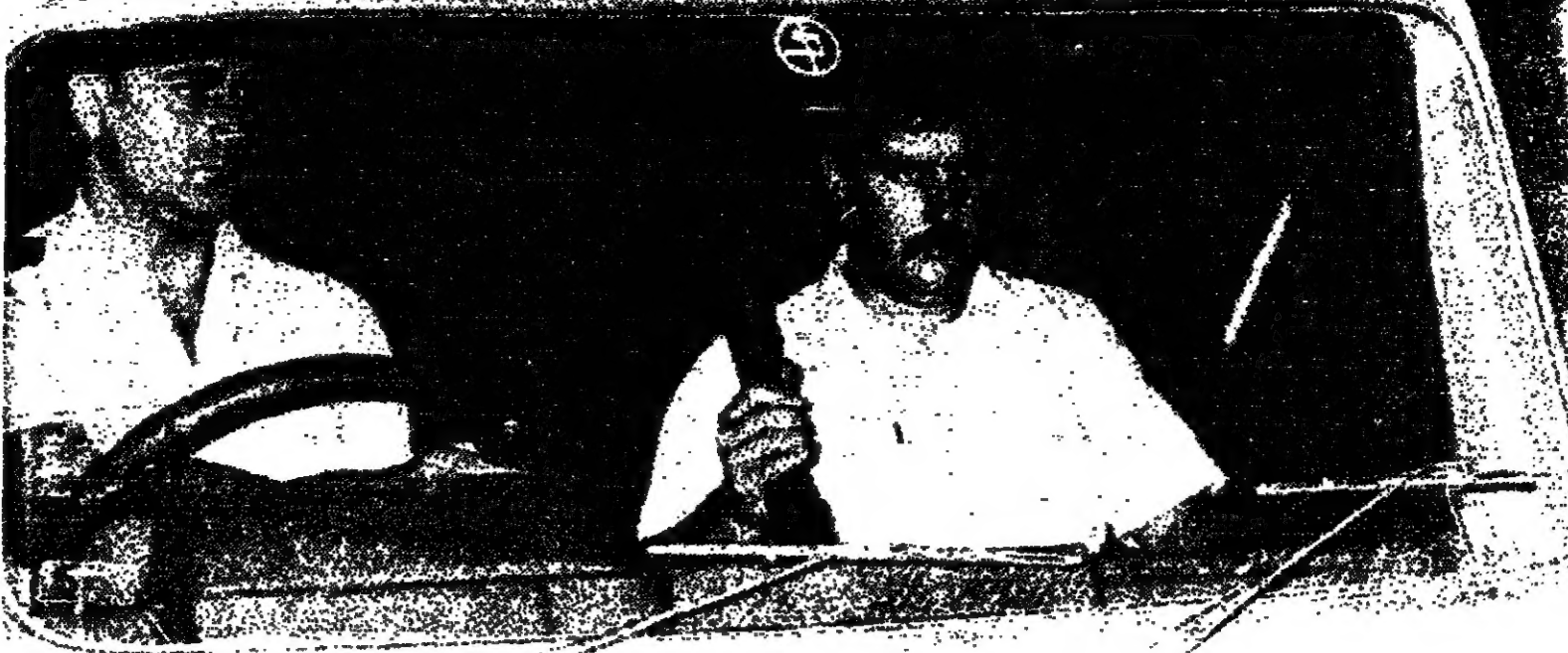
C: "Not at all, sir."

Mr McGrory: "You did not see D do that, did you?"

C: "Not at all, sir."

Mr McGrory: "We have heard evidence from qualified people that there were certainly four bullets which hit this man, three of them about the head when he was either lying on the ground or within just a few inches of it."

C: "They would have gone down into his head from me



A guard holding a pump action shotgun in the blacked-out van taking the SAS witnesses to the Gibraltar inquest yesterday (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

while he was near the ground."

Mr McGrory suggested he went on firing.

C: "He fell through the arc of firing. It was still at the mass of the body, but as he came through the rounds hit him in the head area."

Mr McGrory: "You are saying he simply got his head in the way of the bullets?"

C: "That is the way it seemed to me, sir."

Mr McGrory: "It is your opinion that once you have opened fire you go on firing?"

C: "You should go on firing until they are no longer a threat to the situation."

Mr McGrory: "The best way to ensure that is to kill them?"

C: "Yes, sir."

The lawyer added: "Can you explain how five bullets hit this man in the back since you and D, according to your evidence, were firing at the front?"

C: "No, sir, I can't."

Mr McGrory asked if he had been briefed to expect that all three could have or would have a detonator.

C: "I was told all three - any one of them could have a detonator."

Soldier D, the next witness, said it was emphasized at briefings that Farrell, McCann and Savage were dangerous and fanatical terrorists.

He was told the radio-controlled device they would be carrying could be detonated by the press of one button.

We were told that it was possible that all three members could be carrying a device to detonate the bomb.

"On the day that we went out we were told that the bomb had been planted."

He told Mr McGrory there had been arrest rehearsals before the operation. "What was intended was that we were to approach the terrorists."

"Once we had decided to effect the arrest the pistol would be there, we would shoot 'Stop Police. Hands Up'. Once that was done we would make sure the terrorists

were on the floor with arms away from the body."

Soldier D said he had no option but to fire when Savage swung round to face him.

He said that under Army rules of engagement and believing Savage was about to detonate a bomb, the SAS men need not have shouted a warning.

Savage, he said, swung round. "We gave him the benefit of the doubt. He did not stop. He carried on with the movement. We told him to stop. We gave him the option to stop."

If Savage had stopped immediately when he was called on to stop, then he would be alive now.

He was concentrating intently on Savage and he had only a split second to make a decision. He did not know if Savage spun round because of the gunfire from A and B at the garage.

After Savage's movement was demonstrated in court, Mr McGrory said it was just like a western gunfighter going for his pistol. That was odd, he said, because Savage was not armed.

Mr McGrory: "Whatever you or I may think we knew, the late Mr Savage knew something. He had no gun, no button, no bomb?"

D: "Correct, sir. But on the day I believed that he did."

The inquest continues

Banker in court after commuters revolted

A City banker who triggered a commuters' revolt last January when his homeward bound train was stranded at Luton station in Bedfordshire was bound over yesterday to keep the peace.

Brian Jones, aged 53, of Moorfield Road, Rothwell, Kettering, shouted at other stranded passengers to block the doors of a train that could have taken them home, so that it was prevented from leaving the station. Many obeyed him and the incident flared into a battle with railway staff.

Jones's not guilty pleas to using threatening behaviour and behaving in a disorderly manner were accepted by Luton magistrates.

Laser show

Jean-Michel Jarre, the rock musician, said last night that he hoped to re-apply to Newham Council, east London, for permission to stage his music and laser extravaganza in Docklands this autumn. The council refused an entertainment licence earlier this week. He wants to stage a second show in Glasgow.

Legion deaths

The Health and Safety Executive said last night it would decide soon whether to bring prosecutions against the BBC after the deaths caused by an outbreak of legionnaires disease at Broadcasting House.

Irish unveiling

A bronze lifesize statue by Marjorie Fitzgibbon of Eamonn Andrews, the broadcaster, was unveiled in his native Dublin by his friend and neighbour, Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister.

Title approved

The publishers of the *New Statesman and Society* yesterday failed in an attempt to gain a High Court ban on *The Sunday Times* calling one of its sections "New Society".

Drugs remand

Two men were remanded in custody until September 21 by Usbridge magistrates yesterday charged with attempting to smuggle cocaine valued at between £2.5 million and £3 million at Heathrow Airport on September 10.

Car drowning

Ronald Sture, aged 32, a machine operator, of South-down Close, Pembroke died yesterday after roping himself to his car steering wheel and driving off a jetty into the sea at Pembroke Dock in West Wales.

Quicker route to new roads

By Our Political Reporter

Steps which could significantly cut the time it takes to build new motorways, trunk roads and by-passes have been set in motion by Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Transport.

He has introduced measures which aim to halve the time it takes to prepare new projects for public planning inquiries. The move is part of a wider campaign to ease growing congestion on Britain's roads.

At present, it takes roughly 14 years for a new road to be completed from the moment it is envisaged. On average, six of those years are consumed by transport officials surveying the area in question, drawing up preferred, and alternative routes, and generally preparing for the public

inquiry. "If an inquiry lasts only one year it is neither here nor there. It's the time it takes preparing for the inquiry that delays everything", a Department of Transport source said.

Mr Channon has reorganised the department to give the task of preparation much greater priority. In future, it is likely to concentrate on fewer projects at any one time, but to devote far more manpower and more effort to each to speed up their progress.

It is also likely that instead of preparing up to five possible routes, officials may in future limit themselves to one or two. Mr Channon's move comes after lengthy battles to have new roads built, of which the most notorious example was the Okehampton by-pass

in Devon. The scheme was first mooted in the late 1960s, the inquiry opened in 1979 and the road was finally ready this year.

● The Government and British Rail are making the wrong choice for the new Channel tunnel rail, road and coach terminus due to open in 1993, according to a paper from the Conservative Bow Group published yesterday.

Instead of Waterloo and King's Cross, the untapped potential of Willesden Junction in north-west London represents a "dream opportunity" for urban regeneration and a cheaper, more efficient site for the Channel tunnel terminus, the paper says.

All Change for Europe (Bow Publications; £8).

Scottish new town debts condemned

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

An all-party committee of MPs yesterday published a damning report on the financial management of five Scottish new towns and said the Government would have to write off up to £800 million of debt.

It also doubted whether the development corporations in Cumbernauld, East Kilbride, Glenrothes, Irvine and Livingston had achieved their objectives of attracting and retaining industry and creating jobs despite their many advantages.

The new towns were all established between 1947 and 1966 on the assumption that loans for their capital programmes from the National Loans Fund would eventually be repaid from rising asset values.

By April last year, only £18 million of the £852 million advanced had been repaid and "continuing revenue deficits mean that it is unlikely that the new towns will ever be in a position fully to

clear these loans", the Commons Public Accounts Committee said.

"We are concerned that the Exchequer is faced with writing off very large amounts of new town debt, possibly as high as £800 million."

The MPs were "very concerned at the nature and extent of the inherent weaknesses" in the running of the new towns by the development corporations and the Scottish Industry Department (IDS) which an internal financial management survey identified in 1986. "These included criticisms of outdated structures and systems, and inadequacies in financial control, budgetary arrangements and performance measurement."

A financial reconstruction which included writing off some of the existing debt was now being prepared. "We strongly emphasise the importance of achieving a financial structure for the new towns that maintains effective operational and financial disciplines,

clearly identifies the extent of any necessary write-off, and establishes the extent of and limits to any future call on the Exchequer", they said.

The committee also condemned the IDS for the way it had given four of the new towns £60 million in grants to pay the interest charges on loans. None had made provision for repayment.

"We were very disturbed at the lack of financial discipline which these arrangements exhibited", the MPs said.

The report states that since 1978-79 1,391 firms had moved into the new towns but 975 had closed down or moved away. Between 1985 and 1987, 15,700 jobs had been created but 10,000 had been lost. "Overall the unemployment rate is not markedly better than the Scottish average, despite the new towns' advantages."

Public Accounts Committee: Review of Scottish New Towns (Stationery Office; £3.90).

SNP starts 'can pay, won't pay' drive

By Kerry Gill

The Scottish National Party will begin recruiting an "advance army" of 100,000 Scots next week who will sign a pledge not to pay the forthcoming community charge. The campaign, to be subtitled Can Pay, Won't Pay, will amass 100,000 people prepared to suffer civil penalties such as impounding of property and wages rather than pay the tax when it comes into operation in April.

Mr Alex Salmond, the party's deputy leader, said last night that each of those prepared to join the advance army will be asked to sign a form pledging their support.

It is seen as a moral and political challenge to the Government in which those making the pledge will be seen to "stand shoulder to shoulder" with those members of the public who cannot afford the new tax.

Mr Salmond, speaking after delegates at the Scottish National Party's conference at Inverness, almost unanimously backed a policy of non-payment, said: "We will be targeting those people in Scotland who can afford to pay this tax and can afford to

pay the penalties and who can show their solidarity with people who cannot pay". He said later that to politicians like himself, any attempt by the Government to impose penal penalties rather than take civil action would be like "martyrdom without dying" - in other words, a political godsend to the SNP's campaign.

At present the civil penalties for non-payment are small: a 10 per cent surcharge on the outstanding tax, about £25, and the costs of summary warrant action reckoned to be between £20 to £40. Eff-

ectively, it could mean sheriff's officers removing Mr Salmond's television set to pay for the debt. The conference debate saw only one dissenter from a non-payment policy as Mr Ian Goldie, a national council member, said the campaign might only serve to "make people feel good".

Other speakers condemned the poll tax as immoral, imposed by a Government without any mandate from the Scottish people.

Mr Ron Munn, finance convener of Grampian Regional Council, brandished a silver paper spinner declaring

it signified what a tax should be: "A means by which the Government can raise money to carry out its obligations."

He then held up a silver paper sword to illustrate the poll tax. "The poll tax is a weapon, a sword, an ancient and cruel tax dug up by Mrs Thatcher from a primeval swamp."

Mr Munn then snapped the sword to applause from about 500 delegates after pledging he would not pay the poll tax.

Mr Jay Smith, a Dunfermline district councillor, also pledged not to pay, saying: "You are either with us or against us."

Today the SNP will challenge both the Labour Party and the Scottish TUC to give their support to the campaign of non-payment.

● Mrs Margaret Ewing, SNP parliamentary leader, urged the party to face up to the economic and political realities of the EEC.

On the eve of today's debate on Europe, she said the party must remind itself that it has a clear and unequivocal stance on EEC membership.

Independence within the EEC was the only way to lead Scotland out of a backwater.

Hungary looks West for new aircraft

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Hungary joined the growing list of East European nations turning their backs on Soviet aircraft-makers when Malev, its state airline, yesterday signed a contract to lease three Boeing 737-200s from GPA, the Irish aircraft rental company.

Despite strong pressure from Moscow, which has already seen East Germany and Poland turn to the West for replacements for their ageing fleet of Soviet-built jets, Malev chose GPA to lease three Boeings for delivery in

November. Now Malev is close to signing another agreement for British-built BAe 146 four-engined aircraft to help expand its freighter operation.

Now even Aeroflot, the Soviet airline, is beginning to talk to Western aircraft-makers and hopes are rising that it, too, could be in the market for American or European aircraft.

● The transatlantic air fare war spread northwards yesterday as Wardair, the independent Canadian airline, launched

an aggressive package of measures aimed at attracting business travel between Britain and Canada.

The airline is offering a free economy ticket for passengers buying a full-fare business class ticket. It has also introduced a business class excursion return fare of £750 between London and Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Winnipeg which it claims is 30 per cent cheaper than its rivals, as well as incentives to travel agents.

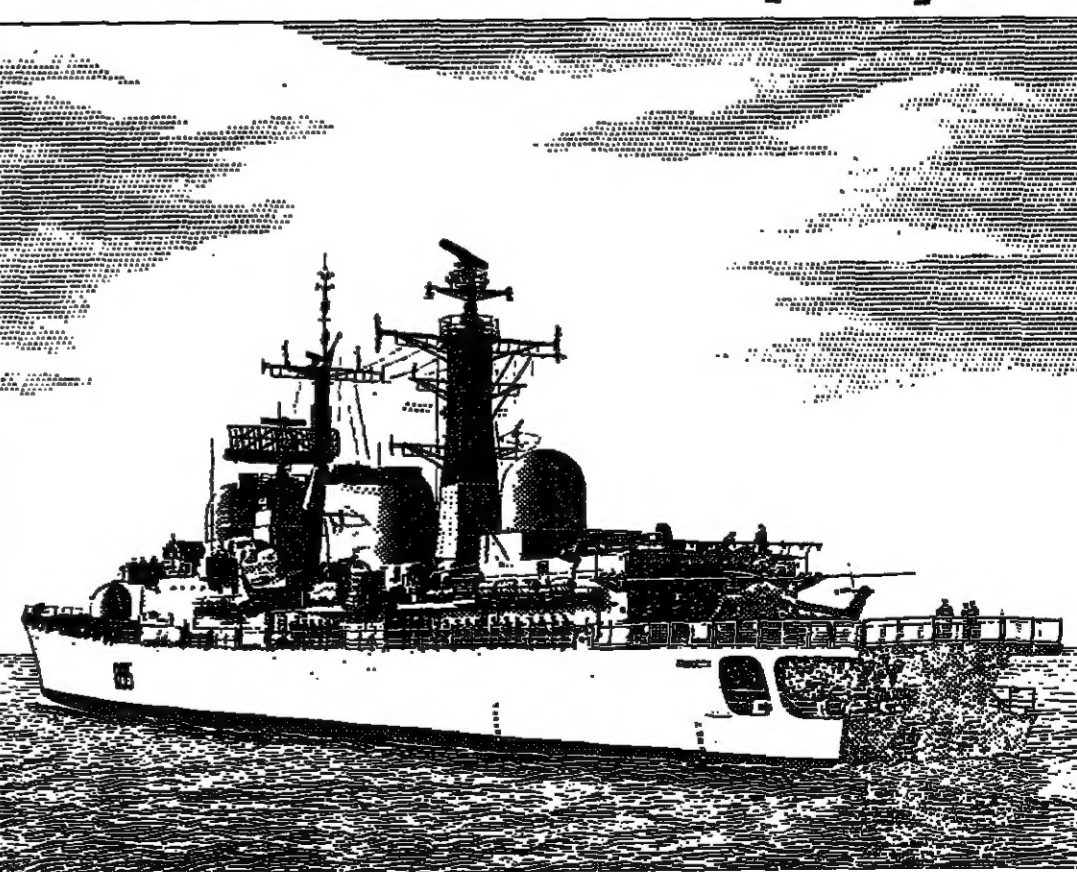
Dog breeder's £1m

A dog breeder and war heroine who was beaten to death by burglars on her eighty-first birthday outside her country home in Hertfordshire has left £1 million in her will published today. Mrs Joan Macan, a widow, left £1,051,728 gross (£1,030,204 net), with £75,000 shared between three charities: the Royal Veterinary College Animal Care Trust, the Animal

Health Trust and the Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Association.

She left Mrs Rita Green, aged 40, her housekeeper, and Mrs Green's son Denis, aged 22, a kennelman, £25,000 each. Mrs Macan, of Moneybury Hill, Ashridge Park, was a breeder of Labrador retrievers and worked with the French Resistance in the Second World War.

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Act now and you could be at Dartmouth in January.



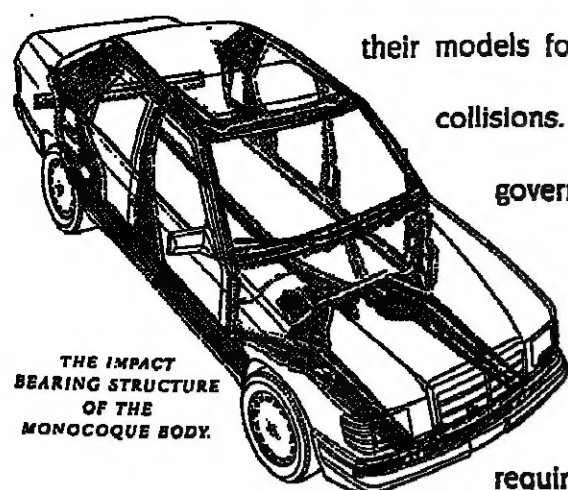
LONDON 01-405 9851 · BRISTOL 0272 664246 · DERRY 0332 49679 · BIRMINGHAM 021-631 6093 · ROSSLYN 0383 414224
You should be educated to degree or 'A' level standard. You should also have been a UK resident for the past five years. The Armed Forces are Equal Opportunity Employers under the terms of the Race Relations Act 1976.

IMPORTANT NOTICE for LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Vacancies Supplement 15 September 1988

Copies of this issue have been despatched to all central public libraries and are available from today. Please contact your local central library for details of collection. Photocopying is permitted. The Library Association Record dated 15 September will be posted to members at the end of the month.

Copies of the Record and the Vacancies Supplement are also available from LA HQ, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE.



THE IMPACT BEARING STRUCTURE OF THE MONOCOQUE BODY.

It is a surprising fact that only Mercedes-Benz, of all the world's car manufacturers, routinely test their models for off-set frontal collisions. Why? Because government crash test legislation demands that car makers meet requirements only for 100% frontal collisions - so that is the routine they all follow. Except Mercedes-Benz.

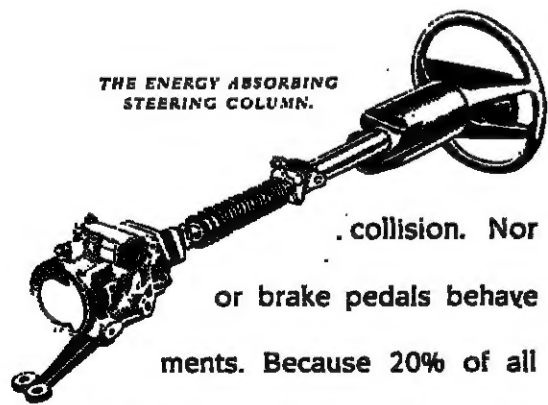
Their research shows that 40% off-set frontal collisions happen three times more frequently, so Mercedes-Benz design briefs demand that all chassis and crumple zones be tailored specifically to disperse the unique stresses of both types of collision. Which means impact energy is absorbed progressively and displaced into forked cross-members mounted onto extremely rigid sidewall and transmission tunnel structures. The energy is therefore diluted by being transmitted and absorbed in three different directions.

A CRASH TEST EVERY THREE DAYS

Mercedes-Benz conduct a crash test every three days, on average. Because safety research is an integral part of the Mercedes-Benz design process, many tests are conducted on prototypes prior to full scale production of a new model.

Consequently, the safety development team are well placed to impose their priorities on the fundamental design of a car. Today's Mercedes-Benz models are the most thoroughly tested and safest the company have ever built.

The four-part Mercedes-Benz steering system, as an example, is fitted with a distorting cup under the steering wheel, and a collapsible, corrugated column that will not intrude into the passenger compartment in either a head-on or off-set collision. Nor can the clutch or brake pedals behave like blunt instruments. Because 20% of all severe accident injuries are to the feet, the pedals are designed to swing away from the driver on impact.

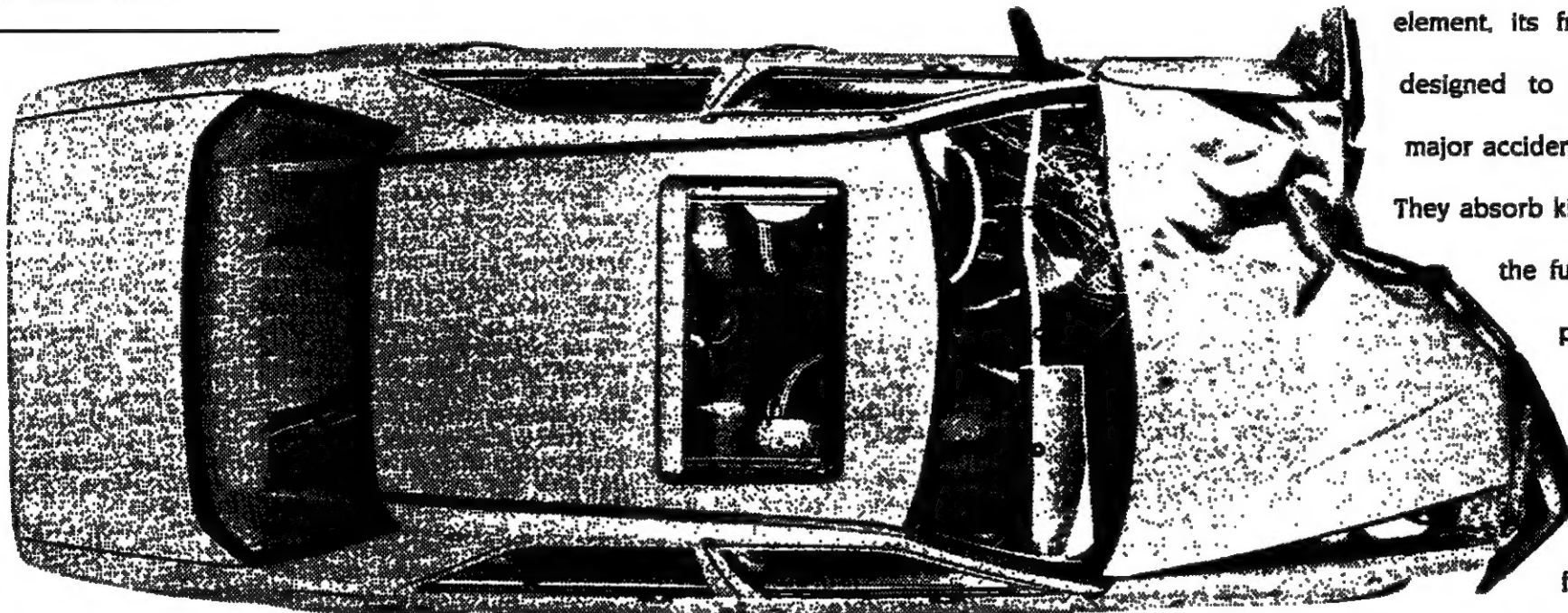


THE ENERGY ABSORBING STEERING COLUMN.

THE FATHERS OF AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY

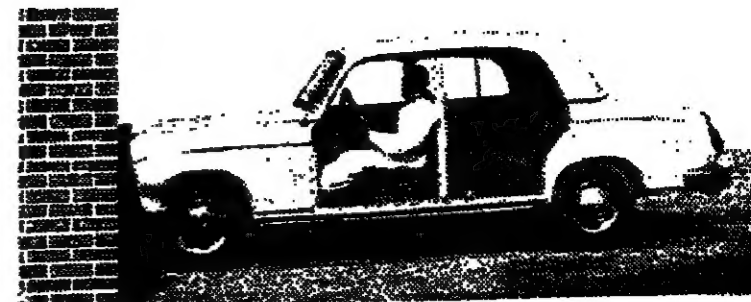
The history of Mercedes-Benz safety consciousness dates from 1931 when they developed independent front suspension to ensure safer roadholding. And as long as thirty-seven years ago, long before 'crumple zone' and 'safety cell' became part of car industry jargon, Mercedes-Benz patented the first impact-absorbing body shell. But rather than protect the patent in their own

Only Mercedes-Benz crash test their cars for the accident that happens most often



interests, Mercedes-Benz allowed it to be infringed in everybody's interests, so other car makers could incorporate the idea into their own body designs. A gesture that speaks for itself.

In 1959, Mercedes-Benz became the first manufacturer to crash test and roll-over test their cars.



SCIENTIFIC CRASH TESTING. CIRCA 1959

In that year, 80 were destroyed in the search for greater passenger security. Since then, no car maker has placed greater emphasis on crash testing, and many others reap the benefits simply by adopting the results of Mercedes-Benz pioneering research.

STATE OF THE ART SAFETY CELL

Computer-aided design, combined with extensive use of high strength, low-alloy steel, ensures that Mercedes-Benz monocoque body shells are not only light, but are also outstandingly strong. Such a highly rigid shell is the basic safety element, its front and rear sections designed to yield progressively in major accidents.

They absorb kinetic energy and divert the full force away from the passenger safety cell.

Strong cross-members are built into the floor pan to stiffen further the safety cell's

resistance to side impact. Additional single section roof frame cross-members enhance the total load bearing capacity of the roof in front, side and roll-over impacts.

HOW THE USE OF AIR CAN PREVENT INJURY

All inertia-reel safety belts fitted to the front seats of Mercedes-Benz cars, have electronic belt tensioners



as standard. Above a predetermined level of impact, the tensioner is activated and pulls the belt taut around the body in milliseconds, inhibiting forward movement of driver and front seat passenger. Above certain speeds, however, impact injuries can still occur no matter how sophisticated the seat belts being worn.



Therefore, Mercedes-Benz also offer

FROM IMPACT TO INFLATION IN 80 MILLISECONDS

an electronically controlled airbag that is neatly stowed in the steering wheel hub. This innovative safety feature has been available since 1981 and is already fitted to 350,000 Mercedes-Benz cars. A normally invisible guardian, it inflates in milliseconds, under impact, to cushion the driver's head and greatly reduce the risk of chest injuries. Further proof that the Mercedes-Benz commitment to safety is uncompromising, unchallenged and continues unabated.



ENGINEERED LIKE NO OTHER CAR IN THE WORLD.

Women setting low target as lawyers, student survey finds

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Women law undergraduates set themselves lower professional targets than men and expect lower salaries as solicitors, a survey of law students published yesterday says.

The survey, of 2,000 undergraduates at 13 universities in England, shows that of students intending to become solicitors, women expect much lower earnings throughout their career, have lower partnership expectations and are more content than men are to go to a medium-sized or small firm.

About 31 per cent of women, but only 18 per cent of men, expect to earn a starting salary of less than £9,000, it found. Their expectations remain consistently lower than their male counterparts.

The survey, by Gouldens, the firm of solicitors, shows that nearly half the male students, 46 per cent, expect to be earning more than £20,000 after five years, but only 20 per cent of women feel as confident of their earning potential.

Similarly, 6 per cent of women thought they would never become partners, while

only 1 per cent of men felt the same way.

Miss Clare Deanesly, Gouldens partner in charge of articulated clerk recruitment, said: "We were surprised by the lack of confidence shown by some female law students, although law firms must shoulder some of the blame for failing to encourage and promote adequate career structures".

The survey also sounds a warning note for solicitors' firms seeking to ease the difficulties in attracting enough students to meet the demand for articulated clerks.

It shows that of 2,000 undergraduates who were reading law, history, or economics, only just over 40 per cent intended to become solicitors and a further 6 per cent wanted to go to the Bar.

Nearly all — 96.5 per cent — of those potential lawyers were reading law, but as many as 34 per cent of law students wanted an alternative career, and many of those (40 per cent) cited the attitude or image of the profession as a dissuading factor. A further 19 per cent not entering the profession felt it lacked the

necessary career scope. Miss Deanesly said: "A surprisingly high number of students volunteered the information that the further training involved had discouraged them, while a considerable proportion felt that the life of a solicitor was boring, monotonous or office-bound".

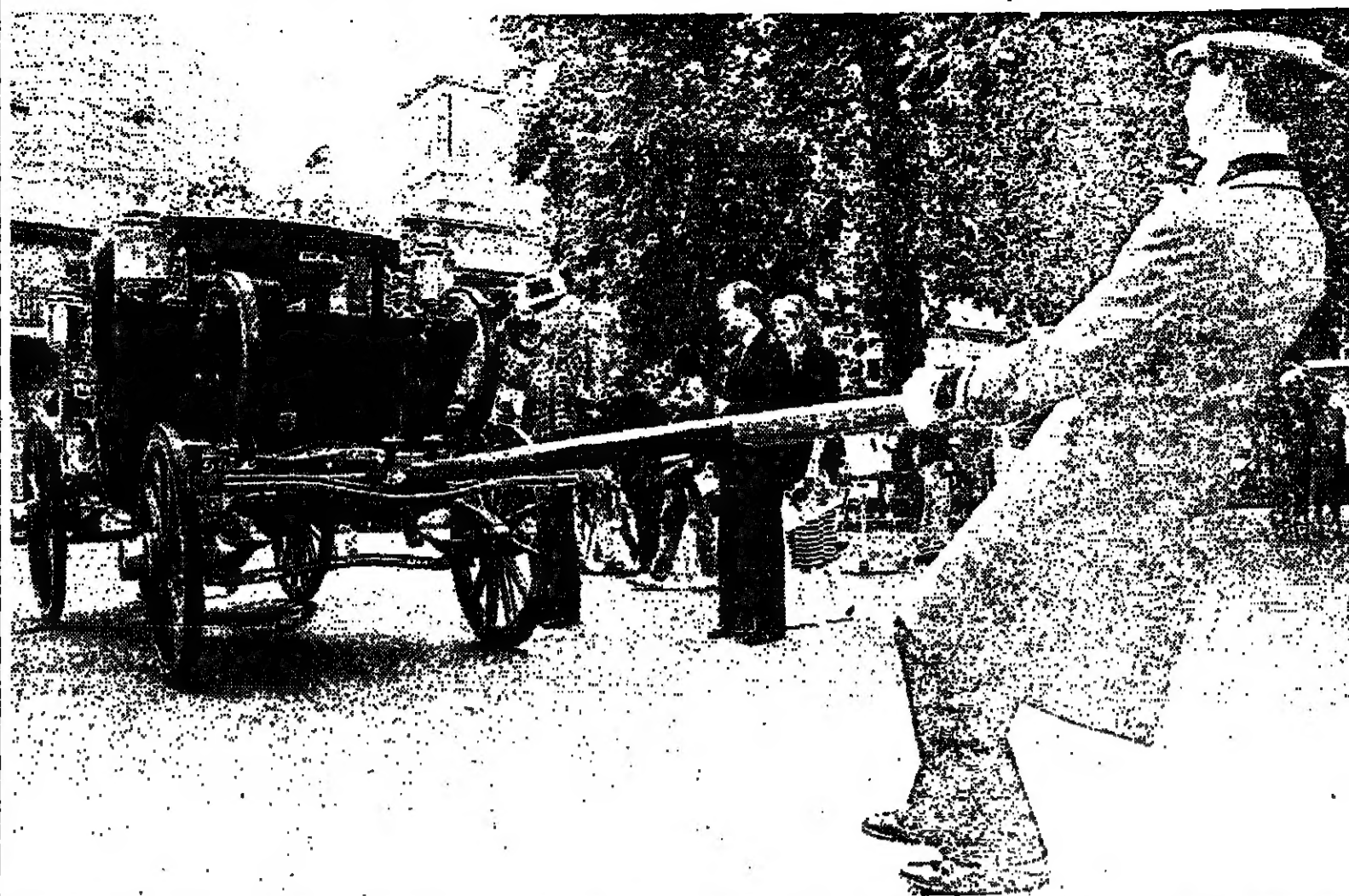
Even among those entering the profession, 22 per cent of women felt it had a pompous and pedantic image.

Another alarming finding was that 32 per cent of men and 27 per cent of women did not see the law as a long-term career and believed they would leave the profession after qualifying.

"The continuity of private practice seems to be increasingly subject to the external pressures of financial reward elsewhere and job mobility across the professions," law firms would have to work increasingly hard at generating loyalty among their recruits, she added.

A prime reason for choosing to be a solicitor was financial reward, cited by 67 per cent of the men. More than 60 per cent also cited the career structure of the profession.

New coach rolls into the Royal Mews



The first state coach to be built outside Britain being used into the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace yesterday by Mr Nigel Day, a rough rider. The State Opening of Parliament will be the first public

engagement for the resplendent Australian State Coach, which was transported on a jumbo jet from Sydney. Mr Jim Frecklington, the designer, and his team of craftsmen took 12 months to build the £120,000

coach, which is a gift from Australia and is modelled on the Irish State Coach. Mr Frecklington said: "It is the only coach to have hydraulic suspension. It has electric windows and a heater which will be very

important on winter engagements." Weighing three tons and built from Australian hardwood and aluminium, the only non-Australian materials are its four Waterford crystal lamps. (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Minister calls for 'designer' sentence

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, called yesterday for new ways of dealing with less serious offenders.

He wants the probation service to move centre-stage to help to end prison overcrowding by encouraging the punishment of more offenders in the community.

Mr Patten told the Association of Chief Officers of Probation in Leeds: "Severe penalties must continue to be available for those who commit serious and violent crimes: some people must stay in prison for a long time."

"But we do need to develop existing and new ways of punishing in the community those who commit less serious crimes."

That lies behind the Green Paper on punishment, custody and the community, whose implications Mr Patten set about selling to probation chiefs.

He called on the probation service to overcome a misconception sometimes held that it operated a form of "private justice", partly because what it did was not known or not properly understood.

"If people are being sent to prison simply because the public and sentencers do not know or do not trust what the probation service does, then we are all the losers", Mr Patten said.

He said the probation ser-

vice must come to terms with the ideas of punishment and control as well as helping and reforming. Those were not conflicting ends, but complemented each other.

Mr Patten said that much of the increase in the use of the probation order had been at the expense of the fine and not custody. Use of the community service order had also increased mainly at the expense of the fine.

When an offender was at risk of custody, the social inquiry report by a probation officer should offer the court a comprehensive individualized programme — a designer sentence.

"In this way sentencers will see how the offender's time will be filled, that punishment is combined with reparation and with a constructive approach to the future."

He called on the probation service to change its language. "Most people in the world outside probation quite naturally use words like 'punishment', 'control', 'tough and demanding'. They prefer 'offender' to 'client'. They are surprised when probation officers do not, and the seeds of confusion are sown."

Last night, chief probation officers welcomed moves to reserve imprisonment only for the most serious and dangerous offenders, with supervision in the community becoming more central in the courts' range of options.

Weekend food prices

Beef and pork top supermarket offer

Beef and pork prices are generally stable and there are some good value special offers at supermarkets this week.

Tesco topside of beef is £2.09 a lb, fresh lamb kebabs are £2.9 and fresh standard chicken is 65p a lb. Sainsbury's rib of beef on the bone is down 18p to £1.84 a lb.

Lamb shoulder is 78p a lb. Presto pork chops are £1.28, British beef steak and kidney £1.42, and British roasting beef (boneless chuck) is £1.78.

It continues to be a good time to bulk buy British lamb for the freezer. The quality is good and prices are reasonable.

The range is likely to be between 99p and £1.25 a lb but it could be 89p at some multiple chain butchers.

Asda fresh chicken is 59p a lb, boneless pork shoulder 99p and pork spare rib chops 89p. Bejam's 4lb pack of mince is £2.99 a pack.

Safeway is selling fresh grouse suitable for casserole (year-old birds) for £3.19 each and the first of its wood pigeons are £1.15 each. Home-grown sweetcorn is now in peak condition and is this week's star buy at 15p-30p each. Marrows at 20p-45p each are good value.

Stick beans are 35p-65p a lb, French beans 50p-75p, broccoli is 40p-80p and carrots are 10p-25p.

Spinach is 30p-45p a lb, parsnips 20p-45p, courgettes 45p-60p, potatoes 9p-16p, primo cabbage 14p-20p, and superb cauliflowers are 25p-50p each.

English crisp and Cos lettuce are between 35p and 45p a head. English and French

iceberg 40p-75p, English, Dutch and Belgian round lettuce 18p-28p a head.

Hothouse tomatoes at 30p-52p a lb; spring onions at 20p-40p a bunch; celery at 30p-50p a head; and watercress at 30p-40p a bunch are all in good supply.

Of the wide variety of plums available English Victorias at 30p-55p a lb and French President at 40p-55p are probably the best buys. Newcomers this week are English Warwickshire droopers at 25p-30p.

The American black plums are magnificent but expensive at 90p-£1.40.

English Discovery apples at 30p-50p a lb are near the end of their season but Worcesters and Katy 28p-50p a lb are plentiful.

New season French Golden Delicious and Royal Gala cost between 30p-50p a lb. There are also apples from New Zealand, the Cape and Australia. English Conference pears are 30p-50p a lb.

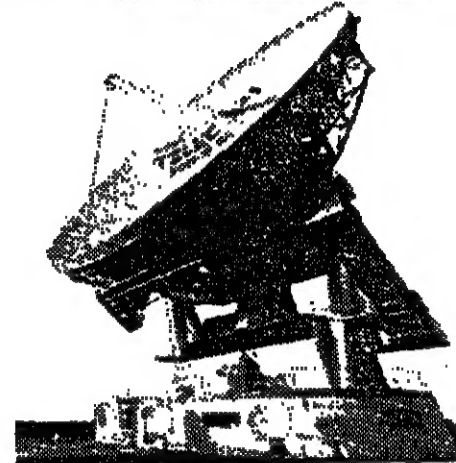
The best citrus fruit are oranges at 8p-25p each, lemons at 12p-18p each and grapefruit from 15p each.

American blueberries are 75p to £1 a half lb. Bananas at 30p-50p a lb are superb and let us hope the hurricane in the West Indies will not affect future supplies.

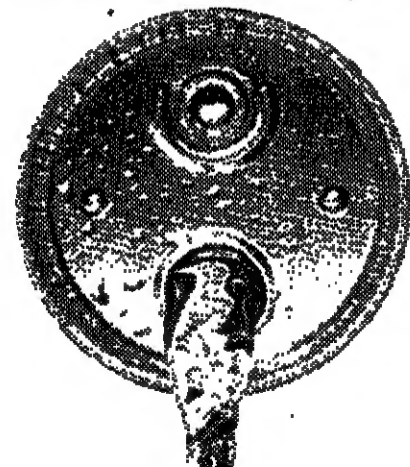
Pineapples at 50p to £2 each, Kiwi fruit at 14p-24p each and mangoes at 45p-90p each are all excellent.

Of the wide selection of grapes available, the Greek Thompson seedless and the Italian Italias are particularly good value between 45p and 85p a lb.

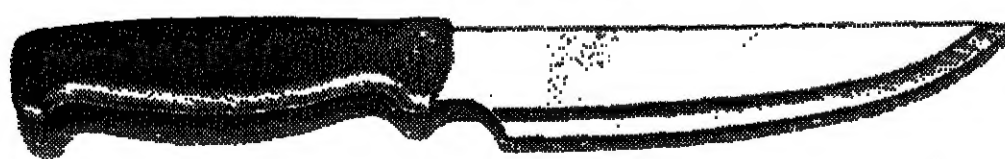
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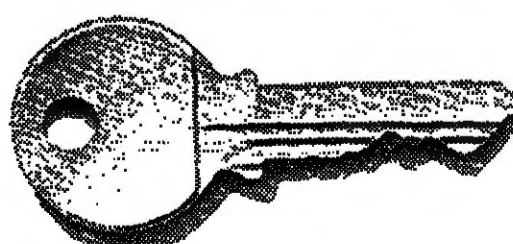
It cans.



It cuts.



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Reflect for a moment on British Steel's latest figures. Last year over 12 million tonnes of steel were delivered. Exports rose 17 per cent. Sales to the home market were up 18 per cent. In the drive to meet our

customers' needs, over 100 plant records were broken. And we made a net profit of £410 million last year, the best to date. A shining example, we think you'll agree.

British Steel

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In the wake of Hurricane Gilbert

Shattered Jamaica counts the cost of a grim 'mashing up'

From Alan Tomlinson, Kingston

Shattered and still shaken by their mauling by the worst storm in local memory on Monday, Jamaicans have only one expression for the devastation wrought by Hurricane Gilbert — "mashed up." It is applied to every unhappy experience.

Howling across the island at speeds up to 170 miles an hour, Gilbert and the flooding caused by the rains it brought "mashed up" 100,000 homes.

One in five households is on the street, according to the Prime Minister, Mr Edward Seaga, who has appealed for \$80 million (about £46 million) in emergency aid.

The view across the sprawling slums of west Kingston is of complete devastation. From above it resembles a honeycomb, with almost every house stripped of its roof.

The narrow streets are choked with debris. Amid the mess, men and women in filthy clothes, often their only remaining garments, struggle to salvage enough material to at least partly cover their homes.

Neighbours laboured all day with machetes to hack away the branches of a huge tree that had demolished the home of Mrs Doris Black, aged 72.

"Everything in sight is crushed. My wardrobe, my bed, it's all gone. We can't get anything out," she said. She is now staying with other homeless neighbours in a crowded room next door.

"I was trembling and crying for mercy and help," said Miss Audrey Gayle, aged 28, speak-

ing of the worst moments of the storm's passage. Her tin roof was one of those that lifted off, joining hundreds of others swirling dangerously through the air. "They could have chop off most of us heads," said a wide-eyed Miss Carlene Hunter.

The twisted sheets of corrugated metal lie all over the city now, sometimes tied like bows around lamp-posts by the mighty storm. Trees are down everywhere, draped with the knotted spaghetti of fallen electricity cables.

"Everything mashed up and blown away," lamented Mrs Dinah Nam, aged 20. "My children's clothes are gone. What a sufferation."

West Kingston is by no means the worst hit part of the capital. The parishes of Portland, St Mary, and St Thomas appear to have suffered most.

Windows have been blown in at banks, offices, and hotels in the commercial district of New Kingston, but most structures seem sound.

Norman Manley International airport is badly buffeted. The control tower windows blew in and rain shorted radar equipment. Small planes have been flipped over or tossed like toys into the branches of trees.

Elsewhere in the country, entire villages had been swept away, Mr Seaga said after he made an aerial survey of the island on Wednesday.

There is no official figure yet, but 19 dead is the number most often repeated. One man was slashed under the arm by

flying glass and bled to death as the howling winds prevented help from reaching him. A falling tree dashed a baby from its father's arms. Three youngsters were swept to their deaths by a flash flood. An unknown number died when the roof fell in at a school where they sheltered.

In a population estimated at two million, about 280,000 people spent the first two nights after the storm in public shelters. But by Wednesday many were drifting back to their devastated homes, discouraged by a lack of even basic needs.

Gradually some services are being restored. International telephone lines are open, although the internal system is still chaotic, and water has returned to about a quarter of the capital.

Elsewhere tankers are the only source of uncontaminated fluid. Power remains out and it may be weeks before it is safe to switch it on again.

A dusk-to-dawn curfew appears to have put an end to looting in the darkened city. Police are reported to have shot dead three looters.

Some residents who ventured out in the mistaken belief that the hurricane was over were caught in the second blast of raging wind as the swirling storm closed its vicious circle.

Trapped, they crouched in doorways, their heads between their knees, until the second assault was over and Gilbert went on its way to wreak havoc elsewhere.

Dingo baby couple cleared



Michael and Lindy Chamberlain emerging triumphantly from the Northern Territory Court of Criminal Appeal, where their convictions in Australia's dingo baby case were quashed yesterday after a six-year battle to clear their names. It was the same court in which Mrs Chamberlain was convicted in 1982 of murdering her baby, Azaria, although she maintained the child had been taken by a dingo, or wild dog, from a tent at Ayers Rock.

It took only 10 minutes inside the packed court in Darwin for the three judges to hand down the final verdict (Christopher Morris writes). Chief Justice Austin Asche said: "We find the original trial is now attended with

sufficient doubt to justify this court in quashing the convictions. Not to do so would be unfair and would allow an unacceptable risk of perpetrating a miscarriage of justice."

Mrs Chamberlain smiled, then dissolved into tears. Her husband, who was found guilty in 1982 of being an accessory, also went as friends rushed forward to hug and kiss them.

But despite the legal victory, which has left the couple with debts of almost £1 million, the fight goes on, this time for compensation. As well as spending 3½ years of her original life sentence in jail, Mrs Chamberlain endured two inquests, a seven-week trial, two appeals and a Royal Commission inquiry.

Kremlin admits new Armenian protest strikes

By Our Foreign Staff

A new wave of strikes and demonstrations by Soviet Armenians has broken out in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, and in the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, which the protesters want transferred from Azerbaijan control.

Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, confirmed the protest action during a news conference in Moscow yesterday.

Asked by Western journalists for details of the Yerevan demonstrations and strike action by the Armenian majority in Stepanakert in Nagorno-Karabakh, Mr Gerasimov replied: "There are strikes in Stepanakert, but not in Yerevan. But in Yerevan there are demonstrations at Opera Square." He did not elaborate.

Armenian activists have said that a strike is planned in Yerevan today. Reports reaching Moscow from Stepanakert said that the town's factories had closed and that public transport was at a standstill in the third wave of strikes since February. Only food stores were open. The strike apparently began on Monday and was due to last for a week as part of the campaign for the incorporation of Nagorno-Karabakh into Armenia.

The strikers are also demanding that the authorities evacuate to other Azerbaijani regions about 2,000 Azerbaijanis who had fled to Nagorno-Karabakh from Armenia as a result of inter-ethnic unrest in which more than 30 people have died.

Mr Ambarsum Galstian, an Armenian nationalist spokesman and one of 11 leaders of the "Karabakh Committee", said by tele-

phone from Yerevan that a rally attended by 100,000 people in Opera Square had voted for a day-long strike in solidarity with Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenians in Stepanakert are opposed to Moscow's decision to allocate 3 million roubles (about £3 million) to build houses for Azerbaijanis in the Nagorno-Karabakh city of Shusha.

In addition, they are demanding that eight Arme-

Moscow (Reuters) — Mr Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday went on a pilgrimage to the Siberian village of Shushe-skoyskoye where Lenin spent three years in exile. During his tour he said one worker urged him to "open fire at headquarters" to end resistance to change. "You cannot apply the methods of 1937," he replied, in a clear allusion to Stalin's purges of that year.

nians arrested in recent months for possession of arms, and who are being held in Shusha, be tried by either an Armenian or Russian court and not by the Azerbaijan authorities.

The strikes come less than two months after the Præsidium of the Supreme Soviet rejected demands for the reincorporation of Nagorno-Karabakh into Armenia and approved a series of measures to put an end to unrest in the region.

Those measures included sending troop reinforcements into Stepanakert and Yerevan, calling on local authorities to force workers to return to their jobs, and the allocation of funds for development and professional training in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Papandreou seeks divorce after his wife's outburst

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Andreas Papandreou, the ailing Greek Prime Minister, whose idyll with an attractive airline stewardess is overshadowing public concern about his impending heart operation in London, made it officially known yesterday that he wants to divorce Margaret, his wife of 37 years and mother of his four children.

Mr Sotiris Kostopoulos, the chief government spokesman, prompted by reporters' questions, said: "Certainly, when the Prime Minister returns home, divorce proceedings will be initiated."

He did not say if Mr Papandreou, aged 69, will marry Mrs Dimitra Liani, aged 34, who has been at his bedside since he entered a London hospital three weeks ago.

Greek officials said Mr Papandreou suffered from a narrowing of the aorta and Mr Magdi Yacoub, the eminent heart surgeon, would perform

an operation next week to replace a valve. The Prime Minister's condition has been described as serious but improving steadily.

Mr Kostopoulos again rejected calls by the Opposition for appointment of an acting Prime Minister until Mr Papandreou was fit again. He insisted that the Government was working "like clockwork."



Mrs Dimitra Liani: At the Prime Minister's bedside.

under Mr Papandreou's instructions. There was no need for replacement.

Photographs of the emaciated Prime Minister holding hands tenderly with Mrs Liani, during his daily walk in the grounds of Harfield Hospital in north London, have dominated the front pages of Greek newspapers.

This evidently intended acknowledgement of his romance was seen as a reply to a public outburst by his estranged American-born wife, put out in the name of her "entourage," blaming his present friends for the poor state of his health and deploring "all these immoralities."

Mr Papandreou was aged 30 and a junior academic at Minnesota University when he met the then Miss Margaret Chant, 25, in a dentist's waiting room in 1949. After a brief separation, during which she married and divorced, they married in 1951.

ADVERTISEMENT

THE ISLAMIC COUNCIL APPEALS TO WORLD COMMUNITY TO MOBILISE ACTION AGAINST GENOCIDAL CRIMES OF IRAQI BAAATH REGIME AGAINST ITS OWN PEOPLE

The Islamic Council invokes the moral conscience of the world community to stop the horrific barbarity caused by the Iraqi regimes use of chemical weapons which resulted in

OVER 5,000 PEOPLE KILLED BY GAS IN HALABJA

1,000 VILLAGES DESTROYED

100,000 PEOPLE FLEEING TO TURKEY

Calls upon individuals and organisations to petition their governments to take effective actions to put an end to this genocide.

Calls upon the rulers of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Kuwait, who gave unconditional support in the Gulf War to the Iraqi regime, to break out of their total silence and condemn these brutal crimes which defy all spirit and tenets of Islam.

Calls upon the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Security Council to bring every pressure to bear on the Iraqi regime and impose necessary sanctions to stop the ongoing military atrocities.

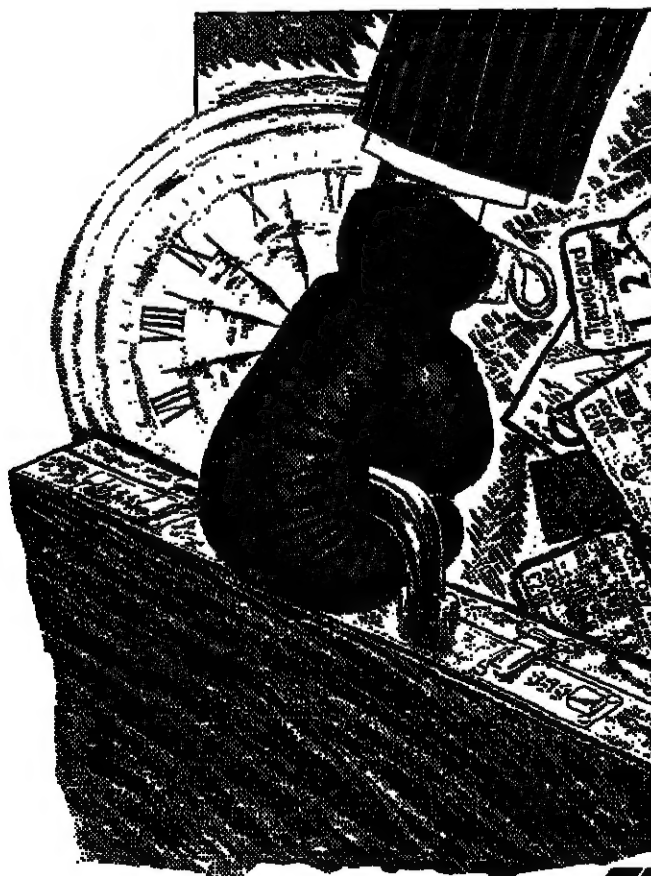
Calls upon all governments and international bodies to extend moral and material support to alleviate the plight of the Iraqi kurds.

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THE FINE ART OF FLYING

AIR FRANCE

Gandhi suffers severe blow in attempt to curb press

By Anatol Lieven

Mr Rajiv Gandhi has suffered one of the worst blows of his period in office as India's Prime Minister and it is entirely his own fault.

That is the consensus in the overwhelming majority of Indian newspapers. The journalists concerned may be biased: the cause of Mr Gandhi's discomfort is a press Bill which is aimed directly at their freedoms.

However, they have been joined in their criticism by much of India's educated classes and professions. All over India, bar associations, students and teachers have been calling strikes and holding protest meetings to condemn the Bill.

The Bill was placed before the Lok Sabha, or lower house of the Indian Parliament, on September 2. No prior notification was given and, thanks to the huge majority of Mr Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in Parliament, the Bill went straight through. Only then did journalists learn its provisions, and uproar broke out.

The law would make the defamation rules much stricter. The clause protecting a journalist who publishes something believing it "in good faith" to be true is removed, and the scope of the offence is much extended.

The burden of proving that

an allegation is true is shifted to the journalist, who must be able to produce original documentary evidence, a copy will not do. The penalty for a first offence is a heavy fine or three months in jail; for a second offence, six months.

Comparisons are being made with the repressive measures of Mrs Indira Gandhi's emergency, which left deep scars in India.

The Bill is widely seen as a personal response by Mr Gandhi to the press harassment he has suffered in connection with the Bofors affair — the rumour that members of Mr Gandhi's entourage, or even the Prime Minister himself, may have received "commissions" from the Swedish armaments firm in return for a lucrative contract.

This corruption allegation has been made the centrepiece of the strategy of Mr V.P. Singh, the former Congress (I) minister who is now Mr Gandhi's most dangerous rival in the opposition.

The press campaign over the Bofors issue has been led by the *Indian Express*, owned by an old ally of Mr Singh's in the business world and edited by a famous investigative journalist and implacable enemy of the Gandhi family, Mr Arun Shourie. Press support for Mr Shourie has not always

been strong, but Mr Gandhi's present move is seen as an attack on the press as a whole.

The rally against the Bill in Delhi called by a co-ordinating committee of senior journalists was attended by such determinedly pro-government figures as Mr M.J. Akbar, editor of the *Calcutta Telegraph*, and Mr Girilal Jain, of *The Times of India*. A press strike was overwhelmingly successful.

In the face of this barrage of criticism from supporters, Mr Gandhi backed down, thereby only confirming the impression of bad judgement. He called for negotiations with the press — this has been rejected by the various press bodies — and did not put the Bill before India's upper house, the Rajya Sabha. If it does not pass into law within six months, it will lapse.

Opposition sympathizers are saying that the overwhelming criticism of Mr Gandhi's action from within the educated classes means that, "barring a miracle", Congress (I) will lose the general elections due by the end of next year. They say that Mr Gandhi's action has proved to the country that he has something to hide over Bofors.

Other analysts, however, advise caution. Mr Pran

Chopra, of the Centre for Policy Research in Delhi, pointed out the deep divisions within the Indian opposition.

A new party, the Samajwadi Janata Dal (People's Socialist League, or SJD) is trying to embrace four national parties, but these are themselves internally divided.

One important split is between two leaders of the Janata Party, Mr Chandra Shekhar, former national president of the party, and Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, Chief Minister of the southern state of Karnataka, who resigned recently over a telephone-tapping scandal.

Mr V.P. Singh, provisionally named as president of the SJD, has not aligned himself formally with either faction. He is believed, however, to be closer to Mr Hegde. Mr Chandra Shekhar has in the past shown jealousy of the prestige Mr V.P. Singh has gained in the opposition in the 18 months since leaving the Congress (I).

Mr Hegde and leaders of his Janata faction are due to meet in Bangalore on September 30 to discuss merging with the SJD. The meeting could be crucial in deciding if Janata will remain united and how much of a chance the opposition has of breaking Congress's grip on government.

Burmese protest at home and abroad



A Burmese student living in Japan shouting anti-government slogans during a rally outside his country's embassy in Tokyo, timed to coincide with yesterday's march in Rangoon.

Rangoon (AP) — Tens of thousands of demonstrators again filled the streets of Rangoon yesterday and Burmese opposition leaders appealed for restraint by students seeking the Government's violent overthrow.

Sources said two student groups had asked for weapons on Wednesday from the US Embassy. One group said it had 5,000 people ready to take up arms. An embassy official told them the United States could offer only moral support, the sources said. Some students have openly called for volunteers to be trained in military tactics.

Student-led street protests have forced concessions from President Maung Maung's one-party Government, including a call for multi-party elections by the end of October. But the opposition demands an interim government to supervise elections.

Yesterday's demonstration included several thousand high school students. A one-legged man with a crutch led about 50 ill-clad, apparently homeless men carrying a banner that said "Pavement Dwellers Suicide Squad." The disabled man said: "We are prepared to die for democracy. We have nothing to lose."

Rangoon newspapers reported yesterday that Captain Sai Win Kyaw, of the 22nd Light Infantry Brigade, said at a news conference on Wednesday that the Army had been exploited by the Government, and he called on all members of the Army to resign.

Swedish general election

Green revolution poses threat of political upheaval

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

There is little sense in Sweden of the cataclysm that Sunday's general election is likely to bring to political life. One of the world's most conformist and predictable societies goes silently about its business in its well-ordered Welfare State.

Excitement has never been a feature of life in Sweden, but beneath the sleepy surface a revolution has taken place that, if the opinion polls are correct, may smash for ever the dominant mould of the country's politics.

The election is set to cause the greatest upheaval since the vote in 1976 that ended 44 years of socialist rule and ushered in a disastrous six years of minority centre-right coalition governments.

What has happened is that the Swedish Green Party is poised to benefit from anxiety over the environment that will probably give it the balance of power between the socialist and non-socialist blocs. The effect on the country's political and economic life, generally a model of stability in the postwar era, is likely to be devastating.

The Greens are attracting votes across the spectrum but, most important, from left-leaning intellectual "dissidents" who at present support Sweden's small Communist Party, which traditionally backs minority socialist administrations.

As a result of the Green revolution, the Communists are likely to fall below the 4 per cent necessary for admission to Parliament under

Minister of Justice, was forced to resign earlier this year when it was revealed that she had signed a letter of introduction to the authorities in Britain and France so that the publisher might pursue his now largely discredited theory that Mr Palme was killed by a Kurdish hit squad acting on orders from Iran.

Then Mr P. G. Vingé, head of Sapo, the Swedish security police, confirmed in his memoirs the existence of the

● Communists likely to lose their representation ●

Information Bureau, a nationwide network of Social Democrats that in the 1960s compiled a register of Communist sympathizers.

It was an old story but, in the wake of the Ebbe Carlsson affair, it focused fears on the tendency of the socialists to by-pass the democratic process.

Then two other minor incidents left more egg on Mr Ingvar Carlsson's face. In one, Mr Stig Malm, head of the Trade Union Confederation, admitted using his position on the board of a state housing association to secure a flat for his daughter, a sore point in Stockholm, where there is a severe shortage of accommodation.

In the other, a socialist MP was arrested for drunken driving, a cardinal sin in what remains a basically puritanical society with a strong teetotal lobby.

Mr Carlsson has not helped his cause by giving the disgraced Mrs Leijon a leading role in the socialist election campaign, and by promising her a new ministerial post if he forms the next government, which — despite the Green advance — he is likely to do.

However, everything pales into insignificance in this election beside the overriding issue of the environment.

Swedes, who love nature, have been appalled by the havoc caused to their forests and lakes by acid rain, by the fallout from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and by the threat of coastal pollution.

It is no use telling a Swede, as Mr Nicholas Ridley, the British Secretary of State for the Environment, did earlier this year in a conversation with his opposite number, the peppery Mrs Birgitta Dahl, that North Sea seals are dying from natural causes.

"Pollution is the root cause," Mrs Dahl says firmly, and nine-tenths of the nation believes her.

● Anxiety over environment rules campaign ●

Sweden's system of proportional representation, depriving the Social Democrats of their majority and forcing them to do a deal with one of the other parties, perhaps even the Greens.

These are anxious times for Mr Ingvar Carlsson, the Prime Minister, facing his first election as socialist leader since taking over two years ago from his assassinated predecessor, Mr Olof Palme.

With the economy set fair, unemployment less than 2 per cent and with post-Palme sympathy for the socialists running high, he might reasonably have expected to lead his party to victory.

Instead, the secure ground has been cut from under him by the Green revolt and by a series of scandals involving socialist abuse of power.

The first of these was the affair involving a private investigation into the Palme killing by Mr Ebbe Carlsson, a socialist publisher.

Mrs Anna-Greta Leijon, the

Polls favour socialists

Stockholm (Reuters) — Latest opinion polls show the Greens capturing between 7 and 9 per cent of the vote — enough to hold the balance between the ruling Social Democrats, who are forecast to win 42 to 44 per cent, and the centre-right opposition, which is expected to take 41 per cent.

But Professor Olof Ruin of Stockholm University said: "I have never experienced such an uncertain election. All kinds of different outcomes are still possible."

According to the polls, the Social Democrats will cling to power with the help of their Communist allies and the Greens. The polls give the Communists about 4 per cent of the vote, the minimum required to enter Parliament.

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Minorities hold key to California

Bush plays an old tune to serenade the ethnic vote

From Michael Binyon, San Francisco

Ethnic minorities will probably decide the outcome of the presidential race in California, and the Republicans are determined not to let any minority votes fall to the Democrats by default.

Vice-President George Bush is vigorously courting the two main groups he believes susceptible to his message of prosperity and entrepreneurial initiative — the Hispanics and the Orientals.

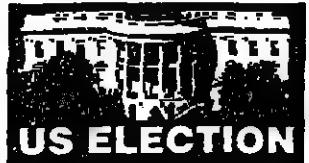
To deepen his inroads into this natural Democratic territory, he has spent the past few days breakfasting with Hispanic leaders, saluting America's Hispanic heritage, walking through San Francisco's Chinatown, and trumpeting those values of family, community and social conservatism that his campaign believes will find a ready echo among California's extraordinary mosaic of ethnic groups, many of them among America's newest immigrants.

Of these, by far the largest and most important are the Spanish-speakers — people from Mexico, Central and South America, as well as a few original inhabitants of California — who are all lumped together in the category of Hispanics.

In all, there are more than 18 million Hispanic Americans eligible to vote. Ameri-

ca's fastest-growing minority, and in California the Bush campaign is hoping to capture at least 35 per cent of them. In 1984 the Reagan-Bush ticket swept up 67 per cent of the Hispanic voters.

This year, with more vigorous courting by the Democrats, helped considerably by Governor Michael Dukakis's fluency in Spanish, the Repub-



licans will have a hard job to repeat their 1984 success. But the Bush campaign is counting on several factors.

These include the evident pride the Vice-President takes in his Mexican daughter-in-law, Columba Garnica, and his half-Mexican grandchildren, and her prominent role in the campaign; the growing prosperity in the Hispanic community; and the strong endorsement by some groups — especially Cubans and Salvadorans — of President Reagan's tough policy towards Nicaragua and towards communism in general.

Mr Bush has pursued these advantages skilfully all week. Among the Cubans of New

Jersey he made much of his anti-communist credentials. In Los Angeles he paid tribute to the Hispanic leaders of the staunchly conservative Orange County.

He has used the current Hispanic Heritage Week to give an ethnic twist to standard campaign themes. Prosperity has brought new employment to Hispanics at three times the rate of the whole country, he insists, and unemployment in this group is falling fast.

Hispanics now own 400,000 businesses, account for \$120 billion (£71 billion) of the economy, are just beginning to rise on the social and economic ladder, and respond with warm applause to the standard Bush line that "I'm not going to let them take that away from you". And Hispanics, with a strict Catholic code and social conservatism, responded to Mr Bush's message of patriotism, school prayer, toughness on crime.

But the Bush campaign has to nuance the speeches carefully. Only hours after praising Hispanic leaders, Mr Bush was addressing raised growers 100 miles away in the hot San Joaquin valley, where he poured scorn on the Hispanic-led farm labourers' union and adopted a tone that would

have little appeal to the Hispanics who form the migrant agricultural labour force.

Mr Bush also has little sympathy for bilingual education — another main Hispanic concern — and ties his economic message very closely to those who have got ahead, not to the majority who are still left behind.

Oriental Americans — who are known here as Asian Americans — are a smaller, but probably more winnable, ethnic group that Mr Bush is going after. They do not vote as a bloc. Japanese Americans tend to be Democrats, Vietnamese and Koreans Republicans.

But Mr Bush believes these many groups, often new immigrants, can be swayed with the traditional message of the American dream and economic prosperity unshackled by government regulation.

He attempted to put this message across to San Francisco's Chinese in a Chinatown rally on Wednesday. However, the message went somewhat wrong when a large number of non-Chinese Dukakis supporters turned up to boo loudly. The elderly Chinese audience kept an inscrutable Oriental reticence when repeatedly urged to chant "We love Bush".

Face of a suspect killer: 'Like a marble block'

This is the face of the French non-commissioned officer police suspect of having killed as many as seven young army conscripts.

Sergeant-Major Pierre Chanal has been in solitary confinement in Dijon jail for almost five weeks after being apprehended in the act of sexually assaulting and torturing a male Hungarian hitchhiker in the back of his Volkswagen camper (Philip Jacobson writes from Paris).

From that day on Sergeant-Major Chanal, a muscular, commando-trained keep-fit fanatic with a reputation for being an introspective loner, has steadfastly refused to give investigators any information beyond his name, rank and army number.

Only once has he replied to their questions, declaring that he had nothing to do with the unexplained disappearance of the seven soldiers in what has become known as the "Triangle of Death" in the Marne. Sergeant-Major Chanal was serving in the local garrison town of Mourmelon when several of the conscripts went missing over a period of about seven years from 1980.

The disappearances ceased when the sergeant-major was posted to Lebanon, but they resumed when he began making regular visits to jump with the Mourmelon Parachute Club.

His arrest was a fluke. A routine police patrol, spotting his van on an isolated path, discovered the terrified Hungarian trussed up in a special harness.

His 20-hour ordeal had been videotaped by Sergeant-Major Chanal, and police have subsequently established that the camera was purchased only a few days before the first of the Mourmelon disappearances (the youth in question was at the time serving in the sergeant-major's elite 4th Dragoon Regiment).

Every attempt to crack Sergeant-Major Chanal's icy self-control during police questioning has foundered on the expertise he acquired during army courses on resisting enemy interrogation.

It appears he now looks upon himself as a prisoner of war and has adjusted his routine accordingly. Up at the crack of dawn for a ferocious round of exercises, he passes the hour after hour staring intently at the walls of his cell,



seemingly focusing his mind on continuing to resist.

The gendarmerie colonel who first investigated the Mourmelon disappearances has decided to reopen the cases. Starting next week, a big search operation will begin in the woods and undergrowth that cover most of the Marne "triangle".

Sergeant-Major Chanal knew the area like the back of his hand from the training runs and forced marches he so enjoyed, and police suspect that some or all of the missing conscripts may have been buried there.

Combining hundreds of acres of open land criss-crossed with isolated footpaths and concealed clearings will clearly take weeks, even months.

At the same time, detailed records of Sergeant-Major Chanal's army career will have to be examined minutely for any clue that might eventually incriminate him. One

thing seems certain — already facing several charges, including assault, he will not cooperate.

A gendarmerie officer was asked the other day how he would describe the prisoner's demeanour. "This one is a born fighter," he replied. "Like a block of marble."

● BORDEAUX: A dangerous prisoner, who was freed by mistake on Wednesday, was rearrested by police at St Medard, south-west France, yesterday (AFP reports).

Police said that Jean-Philippe Aguilera, aged 21, who was sentenced to a 12-year jail term for rape, torture and acts of barbarism, did not resist arrest when police found him at his parents' home.

His release was said to be the result of an administrative error. Prison authorities had meant to free Antonio Aguilera, a Spaniard aged 48, who was serving a four-year term for attempted robbery.

Gunman murders hospital patient

Palmi (Renter) — An Italian man recovering from a gun attack was shot dead yesterday in his hospital bed in this southern Italian town.

Police said that the man, Signor Tommaso Musico, a 51-year-old butcher, was shot in the face and neck.

Signor Musico was recovering from a bullet wound in his foot after an attack on Saturday which police said appeared to be linked to a personal vendetta.

Crew freed

Rome (AP) — Sixteen Egyptians imprisoned in Iran for more than five years after their fishing boat was accused of entering Iranian waters have been released and flown to Italy. They said two of the crew were killed at the time of their capture.

Top ranks

Peking (AFP) — China has named its first generals in 25 years, appointing 17 to the People's Liberation Army, the China Daily reported. Ranks were abolished in 1965, just before the start of the Cultural Revolution.

Lisbon aid

Strasbourg (AP) — The European Parliament has asked the European Community for £1,300,000 to help towards the reconstruction of the centre of Lisbon, which was badly damaged by a fire last month which left hundreds of people homeless and out of work.

Counted out

Moscow (Renter) — A group of wrestlers who decided to beat up and rob a foreign acquaintance underestimated their strength and left him dead, Sovetskoy Sport reported. The gang received prison sentences of between four and 15 years.

Postmen back

Ottawa — About 1,200 postal technicians have returned to work across Canada, ending a strike that lasted three weeks.

More kidnaps

Zamboanga City, Philippines (AP) — Muslim bandits abducted 17 people in the second mass kidnapping on a southern Philippine island in less than three weeks, military officials said.

Aide doubted Reagan ability to go on

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Some White House aides felt that President Reagan was so depressed in early 1987 over the Iran-Contra arms scandal that they wondered briefly whether he was capable of handling his official duties, according to a new book by two Washington journalists.

One former aide, Mr James Cannon, in a March 1, 1987, memorandum to Mr Howard Baker, who was about to become White House Chief of Staff, raised the possibility of invoking the 25th Amendment to the Constitution. This provides for the transfer of presidential power to the Vice-President, should the President be incapacitated.

But the suggestion was quickly dismissed by Mr Baker when he had a chance to observe the President at close quarters, the book said.

Accounts from the book were pub-

lished yesterday in *The Los Angeles Times* and *The New York Times*. The latter newspaper quoted Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, as saying that Mr Cannon's impressions had been based on interviews with disgruntled staff members who had recently been dismissed.

Mr Fitzwater said Mr Baker "immediately dismissed the idea" of invoking the Constitution and said the Chief of Staff never took the idea seriously.

The book, *Landslide: The Unmaking of the President, 1984-88*, by Doyle McManus of *The Los Angeles Times* and Jane Mayer of *The Wall Street Journal*, is due to be published on Monday.

The Los Angeles Times story said that Mr Cannon said in the memo that when he went to the White House "there was no order in the place. The staff system had just broken down. It had just evaporated. They (White House officials) told stories about how inattentive

and inept the President was," he told the book's authors. "He was lazy, he wasn't interested in the job. They said he wouldn't read the papers they gave him."

"They said he wouldn't come over to work — all he wanted to do was to watch movies and television."

Mr Baker, Mr Cannon and two others observed President Reagan for part of a day in March, 1987, before concluding he was competent to continue performing his duties, according to the book.

The Los Angeles Times quoted Mr Baker as saying in an interview that, although he viewed Mr Cannon, as having raised a legitimate issue, he never seriously entertained putting into effect the constitutional amendment.

The 25th Amendment, ratified in 1967, provides for the Vice-President to become acting President, should he and a majority of the Cabinet declare the President is "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office".

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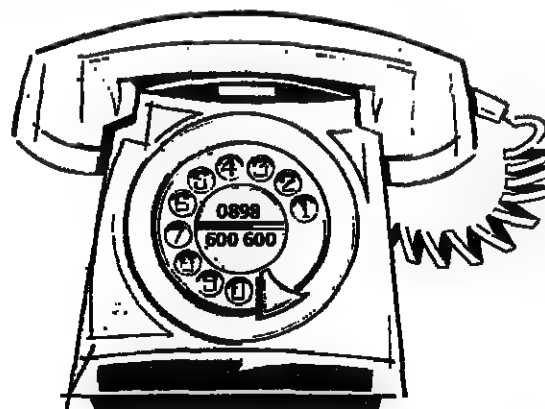
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SPECTRUM



The car bumper sticker says it all: will the view across the river to George Bush's house in Kennebunkport be obscured by sightseers and Secret Service men if Bush wins the presidency?

Vote peace, not George

There are lifelong Republicans of the staunchest kind in Kennebunkport, Maine, who yet do not want the town's single famous son, George Bush, to become the next President of the United States. For if he succeeds they must surrender the good fight they have fought for the past two years, and permit the erection of the town's first public urinal.

"Don't laugh, please," asks the town manager, Janet Duncan. "This is deadly serious. In this town the provision of a public restroom will be an earth-shaking event. No issue has ever caused more controversy than this."

At the core of the argument is whether the priorities of the collection of pastel weatherboard buildings at the mouth of the Kennebunk River should be preserved for us, the visitors, or them, the residents. Until now, whatever the shopkeepers, bait-cutters and boat-hirers coming in the new money have said, it has been the old money of New England families who have summered here for a century, who have had the last word. Usually "no".

You can see well enough what they are afraid of. Kennebunkport is still lovely and therefore unlike much of the Maine coast, where isagers of clipboard motels attract the cheap end of American holiday traffic: overweight grotesques in Bermuda shorts shepherding Cockney children on pilgrimage from one fast-food outlet to the next.

"This restroom thing has become symbolic," says a Beach Street antique shop owner. "Visitors are tolerated. Not more. Giving them a place to go pee would be too much like a welcome. But if George makes it to the White House things have to change. The crowds are gonna come. And no way are the Secret Service gonna like what goes on now... people driving out to the woods at the end of Ocean Avenue to get a little relief."



George Bush's neighbours in Kennebunkport think he's a nice chap, so why won't they vote for him? Because their town will have to have its first public urinal and faces a deluge of sightseers. Brian James takes the first tour

At the end of Ocean Avenue, on a promontory of land, lies the low, sprawling home of George Bush, where the Vice-President's aged mother lives and where his large family and aides gather frequently. It was until recently Kennebunkport's proudest sight.

It is stared at now, however, as a Trojan horse. For the town has seen that what the Secret Service likes and dislikes will become crucial in Kennebunkport if Bush is elected. "Believe it," says Kennebunkport's police chief, John Prescott. "Right now folks drive out to Walker's Point. Pull over and point out the windows. 'Hey, ain't that George playing tennis... that Barbara on the lawn?' Just 200 yards away across the water. No way folks are going to get that kinda glimpse of him if he makes it to President."

Bush had tight security even as Vice-President, Prescott says. "But we have seen how things changed here in Kennebunkport once he aimed for the top job. He came back soon after he got the nomination sewn up: hordes more agents. His usual bunch we have known for years. They blend in. Not the new guys. "My force, 14 officers, makes sure his motorcade gets through the traffic. Then the Secret Service take the place over. They say exactly what they want."

Prescott and the Secret Service

have already had planning meetings: he has been told where the checkpoints will go up, how Ocean Avenue may have to be made a no-go area where even residents of homes with 100-yard front lawns and grand manners to match will need permits to get home.

Kennebunkians loyally delve into memories for kindly glimpses of the man ("remember that time he went into the American Legion kitchens to thank the women for his dinner?"; how about when he came unannounced to the funeral of a local carpenter and "even left his Press corps outside?"), without quite dislodging the sense that he was about to make himself a nuisance.

Jim Godd is a lobster fisherman. "George Bush is a good and decent man. Nice enough guy. But my family has been fishing here seven generations, now we have become an endangered species. Bush comes here with his big motorboat... got patrol boats in front, Coast Guard behind... flat out into your lines."

"Last time they had a big meeting out there I lost 30 pots, at \$40 apiece. I just can't afford to have this guy in the White House. There's 30 families here depend on lobster fishing. They tell us the Secret Service will make us keep a half mile off Walker's Point. So that's one of the best lobster grounds lost."

"He had a meeting last month. Sat all the Press down on his lawn and told them that he wouldn't let

the lobstermen be harmed: if it came right down to it, he'd stay away from Kennebunkport. Did I believe him? Hey listen, the guy's a politician."

Janet Duncan is a little more optimistic. "The Bushes have always been good neighbours. He knows about the mood and style of the place, he's been a jogger and boater since he was a kid. I hope that the worst that can happen is that we have to wear our summer face, when a 4,000 population explodes to 20,000."

Ralph Hall, editor of the 100-year-old *York County Coast Star*, points out: "You need to know that Kennebunkport has joined with other Maine towns to try to control growth in the area - we are already beyond saturation point. If he uses Walker's Point just to get away, we can cope. But if he starts dragging Maggie Thatcher or Gorbachov up here, then things will become impossible. We don't have the room to become world important."

Kennebunkport has still not got over the day when President Reagan was shot while George Bush was in Maine, and every yard of ground along Ocean Avenue seemed to sprout the great mushroom dishes of satellite signalers, as TV crews from around the globe jostled for a glimpse of him.

Is there no one in Kennebunkport taking a positive view of Bush's chances? After all who had heard of Plains, Georgia, before Jimmy Car-

ter: just think of the money made by the souvenir stalls at the shrine where Brother Billy Bent a Beer Can With His Teeth. Susan Savell, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, thinks, and shudders. Locals would rather raise Kennebunkport than let that happen, she insists.

"I have heard talk about the money a Bush presidency could create. Then you start asking what are merchants actually doing... and it is all a bit ho-hum. Walk the town, do you see any evidence that we are going to be flush with Bush memorabilia?"

Apart from two stores rapidly selling out of bumper-stickers declaring "Save Kennebunkport - vote Democratic" we find three shops that do have Bush for President T-shirts, scarcely displayed. "Bush is no big deal," says shopkeeper Sheila Baiguy. "We stock a few because a few folks asked. Actually people prefer the porpoise. Or a gull."

Or even a whale, Sonnie Wendell, who operates a cruise boat out of the harbour, decided to feature a "See the Bush home at Walker's Point" trip. "With the guy on TV every night I figured I was being smart. But people just pointed and laughed. 'We'd rather go and try spot a whale,' they'd say. So now that's what we do."

The most persistent spoor of the potential new President is perhaps in the restaurants where they have mounted on their walls notes from Walker's Point that run. "Dear... Barbara and I wish to thank you for a most enjoyable meal... the bread-and-butter letters of a polite man who wishes to be thought well of by his neighbours."

The reality is that the one thing that George Bush could do which Kennebunkport would regard as right neighbourly would be to move. Or lose.

Finally, go get a guru

Everyone needs friends, advisers and allies - particularly the person seeking influence. Your staff are an image of you as seen by the outside world. If they are flawed or rude or inefficient, that becomes your reflection, too. Choose them well.

Of all mentors, the best are gurus, secure in their own intellectual position, rising above mere financial gain. Gurus think deep thoughts, and, slowly and with deliberation, utter those thoughts "all gilt about and well-expressed". But beware: there is no special quality that invests a man with the guru's mantle: as usual, he is a guru only if his disciple perceives him to be.

Distinguishing a guru from a grey eminence is tricky. The latter is more sombre, more calculating, more sinister. *Emminences* graces can have an established place in society as barrister, lawyer, investment adviser, political analyst, academic. The essence of their role is that they exercise influence beyond their normal authority.

At the other end of the influence scale are sycophants, whisperers in the antechambers of power. To such people the appearance of things is crucial. Toadies and sycophants must find out what their decision-maker wants and then cater to it. This is how they survive, working on the rule that subordinates never know better than their supervisors.

In any business or government, the real threat to the pattern of official responsibility is the kitchen cabinet with influence outside the mainstream of decision-taking. The good news is that kitchen cabinets, existing as centres of intrigue and ambition, seldom last. They are most obvious in politics. No serious executive or head of state is without a kitchen cabinet since they provide an alternative, and perhaps more loyal, source of advice.

Sooner or later what happens behind the scenes is reflected on the front stage. That is where the image-makers - press officers and PR executives - come into their own. To them everything is examined in terms of how mediagenic it is. There are two distinct types of image-maker. At the most basic these are the press officer, who puts out the personal or party line, and the public relations (PR) person, who works out what that line should be.

The PR might advise you on how to cope with the cameras and the Press interview. Assume that interviewers are out to trap you, particularly if you are defending a controversial or weak case. Remember, it is what



PART 5

Michael Shea concludes his series with some advice on the advisers

you want to say that matters. So try changing the interviewer's direction. It often works.

When asked a difficult question, Denis Healey is good at saying: "Now, I think the question you are trying to ask me is..." He usually gets away with it. Another version is: "The question you should be asking is..." This implies that the interviewer is a prize twit and doesn't understand what he is on about.

Next, the professional lobbyist. Lobbying suggests something vaguely improper. However, normally it is perfectly democratic process in which individuals employed by companies or other interests watch legislation, monitor parliamentary business and explain their client's case to those in power.

The lobbyist is a hidden persuader, the political relations arm of any organization, the contacts-fixer, the oiler of the interlocking wheels of industry and government. Good ones know more about what is going on than any politician or Civil Servant.

We are all manipulated by a profusion of pressures, habits, micro- and macro-influences. We are bent and moulded by rapidly changing fashion, styles, arguments, personal restraints, by money, by ambition, by success and failure. We are bound by our own deep, inherited prejudices. Machiavelli argues that half the things we do are due to fortune: the rest is controlled by ourselves. Not a bad starting point, or finishing point.

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● Extracted from *Influence: How to Make the System Work for You*, by Michael Shea, published on September 22 (Century: £10.95).

SCIENCE REPORT

Of Aids, mice and men

Mice could provide a valuable model in which to study the human immune system, including the development of Aids, say the authors of a report in this week's *Nature*. The trick is to transfer cells of the human immune system into mice that are congenitally immunodeficient. The human cells survive and function in the mice for at least six months.

In a series of experiments, SCID mice - so called after their heritable "severe combined immunodeficiency" -

received white blood cells taken from human blood. These experiments were carried out by Donald Mosier, Richard Galiza and Darcy Wilson, of the Medical Biology Institute, and Stephen Baird, of the Veterans Administration Medical Centre, both in La Jolla, California. In the most successful of the experiments all the major types of human immune cells were present in the mice six months later.

The long-term survival of

the human cells is promising, but it is more important to demonstrate that they also maintain their function. If the mice are to provide the kind of experimental model needed, One important functional measure of immune cells is their ability to secrete antibodies, the specific role of the B lymphocytes. For some weeks after being injected with the human white blood cells, the experimental mice produce increasing quantities of human antibodies, after which production is maintained at a stable level for as long as they have, so far, been studied, which is six months in some cases.

In a more specific test, the mice are immunized with tetanus toxoid, the basis of the human vaccine for tetanus with which all the donors of the white blood cells have been immunized. The antibody response of the mice is clearly attributable to their human immune cells.

A less satisfactory result is obtained when the researchers measure the relative proportions of different types of human immune cells in the mice at different times. Most of the measurements are made on tissue taken from the spleen, an Aladdin's cave of immune cells. The proportions tended to vary with time and not to reflect the proportions in the bloodstream of the donors. Furthermore, the number of cells transferred to the mice in the first place influence the relative proportions of the types present later.

An interesting and unexpected observation is that, when the number of cells transferred is large, and when they come from a donor that has been infected by Epstein-Barr virus, the recipient mice often develop a B-cell lymphoma, a type of tumour of the immune system. Analysis of the tumours shows them to consist of human cells. Similar

tumours sometimes arise in humans infected with the virus, notably in African children and in Aids patients.

The variable and abnormal proportions of immune cell types and the emergence of B-cell lymphomas in some circumstances are witness to the fact that mice are not a perfect system in which to study the human immune system. But Donald Mosier and his colleagues are not dismayed. On the contrary, they say "what seems to us most remarkable is that these xenografts were successful in the first place".

By varying the xenografts (the technical term for the transferred human white cells, or for any tissue transplanted from one species to another) and by other manipulations, they expect to be able to improve the system. For example, it may be preferable to use cells from the liver of human foetuses as the xenograft. That has been tried with some success in similar experiments under Irving Weissman at Stanford University Medical School, and the results are due to be published soon.

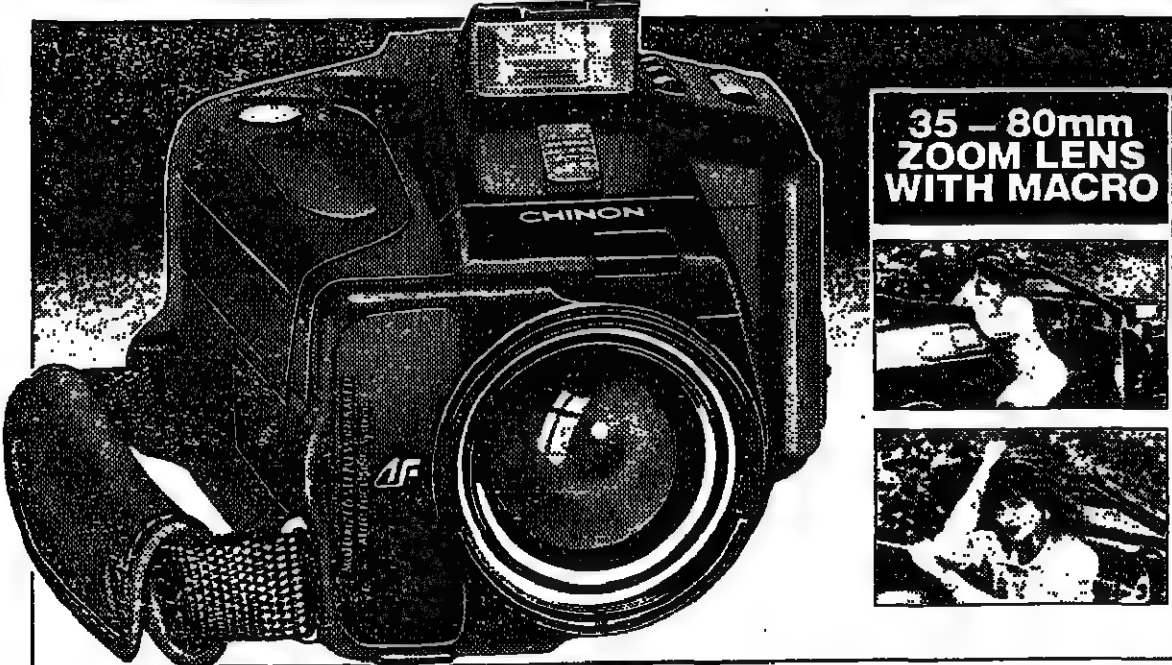
Aids research may also benefit from the mice. There is at present no adequate animal model in which to study the development of Aids after infection with the human immunodeficiency virus and the ability of drugs or vaccines to prevent the disease.

Chimpanzees serve as the only current model, but they are both few in number and, while they can be infected by the virus, do not develop Aids. It will be a high priority of further tests with the SCID mice to check that their human immune cells can be infected with the virus and to discover if this results in the development of an immunodeficiency, albeit a cross between Aids and SCID.

Peter Newmark

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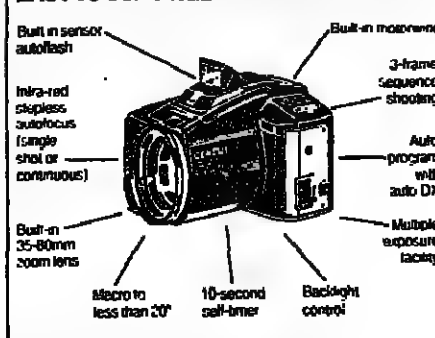
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The house that Janet built

● Finding a house to match her personality was proving a tough job for Janet Street-Porter. So not being one to make do with second best, she called in an architect to design one for her. Tomorrow, *Devan* judges looks at the results.

For such a colourful personality, ordinary black and white just wouldn't do. The house that Janet built will appear on *Occult* colour. It is one of the delights of the 64 pages of *Tomorrow's Times* and *Nature*.



TIMES DIARY

DAVID WALKER

After an exchange of lawyers' letters the think tank being launched by Baroness Blackstone and colleagues to give a leftward spin to policy discussions has decided to change its name. They wanted to call themselves the Institute of Policy Research. But the name had already been taken — by a right-of-centre group which, among other projects, supports the Conservative thought patterns of the Centre for Policy Studies. Following the legal skirmish the Blackstone group has become the Institute for Public Policy Research.

The Government has undoubtedly won a great coup in securing the services of Susan Fay, principal of the Inner London Education Authority's Morley College, to run the City Technology Colleges Trust. Morley is one of the best known centres for adult education in the country; its principal is necessarily steeped in the urban educational mix. Fay is quite a catch, too, for the Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, in so far as those associated with the CTC movement have to date been obviously partisan.

They include people such as Steven Norris, the Tory MP for Oxford East, who was one of the very few Conservatives to see his South-eastern patch of blue turn red at the last election; and Cyril Taylor, a language-school owner who suffers what in Tory party terms is something like a mark of Cain: he is a former member of the Greater London Council and actually believes in the necessity of some form of London government.

Yet Fay's appointment rather exposes the arguments deployed by Kenneth Baker in winding up the Inner London Education Authority. If he was the educational wasteland that Baker claimed, how come its people are proving so attractive for his other ventures. The other notable transferee has been Bill Stubbs, ILEA's chief officer, who is now to run the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council.

The two Whitehall departments which occupy the four Poulson-era towers which jut over Marsham Street — Environment and Transport — are finally to be sundered after years of "common citizenship". They began life as a single mega-department (Ted Heath thought big) but were separated in 1976 (giving the Social Democrat-turned architect, Bill Rodgers, his Cabinet job as Labour's transport minister). But the civil servants continued to intertwine; for example, sharing their economists. From next April they go their own ways, leaving in Marsham Street only one monument to Ted yet to be demolished, the Property Services Agency, linked still in a common career structure with Environment but edging closer to being hived off.

Like Hollywood, Whitehall knows when a star is born; and there appears to have been a stellar event in the Department of Social Security. It goes by the name of Margaret Moodie, an official for whom bright futures are being predicted. She produced a report, under the auspices of the Efficiency Unit's scrutiny programme, on the way social security offices function and what might be done to improve services, especially in the London offices, which have become a byword for shabby inefficiency. Unusually, her report was written in direct, even passionate, prose, and despite its implied criticism of senior management in the DHSS (as was) for letting social security get into such a state, the upper floors of Richmond Terrace greeted her practical suggestions for improvement with enthusiasm.

In fact they paid her the ultimate compliment. They have given her a brief which says something like: do it, put into effect your own recommendations. On the way there Moodie has been asked to examine the functioning of the DHSS's headquarters, with a view to relocating non-essential bits of the office, possibly out of London. Moodie's success is a bit of a victory for Civil Service pluralism, too: she has been quite an active member of the First Division Association and appears, from the report, to believe in bringing the Civil Service trade unions along with reforms rather than beating them over the head.

BARRY FANTONI



For years Whitehall reformers have been arguing for more acceptance of "inner-outsiders": civil servants who move out to experience the harsh realities of industry and commerce but then move back to impart their skills and experience. Aside from money, the biggest impediment has been the Civil Service Commission and departmental rules which say that, once out, you lose your certificate, and if you get back it has to be at your former grade. The Treasury (a big loser recently of man and womanpower) is now proposing something of a revolution.

Returnees, it says, should henceforth be allowed to get back into Whitehall at a grade above their previous one. The Civil Service Commission, meanwhile, is being urged to drop its tests of "knowledge and ability" for returning wanderers. The Civil Service unions don't like the idea of jumping grades, but they are hoist with the petard of their own equal opportunities policies: one of the primary beneficiaries of looser rules on returning to Whitehall would be the large number of women who leave each year to have children and find it difficult to scramble back on to the career ladder.

In fact, its gathering this week in the capital of the Highlands has so far been a remarkably sober and restrained affair. The old-style nationalism of the Sixties and Seventies, with its heady mixture of misty Gaelic culture and left-wing rhetoric, seems to be fast disappearing in favour of a much smoother and more businesslike approach.

A high proportion of the delegates here are involved in economic consultancy and small businesses. There is much talk of promoting enterprise and selling Scotland abroad, and designer suits easily outnumber kilts as the favoured male nationalist attire.

This year's SNP conference does, indeed, have much of the air of a company meeting. It is true that the shareholders of Scotland PLC see their main task as being to resist further

hostile takeover bids from south of the border.

Most Scottish nationalists work on a conspiracy theory that all bad things to hit their country come from England. With some justice they see the latest Sassenach plot as being to dump nuclear waste in some of Scotland's remotest and most beautiful regions. As one delegate put it: "We are moving into a period of environmental imperialism."

But even the threat of becoming Britain's nuclear dustbin has not deflected the SNP from its politeness. Isobel Lindsay, who is on the party's Green wing and confesses to being worried about the growing influence of the yuppie tendency, took pains to dissociate nationalists from a car sticker with the message: "Keep Scotland Tidy."

Drop Your Litter In England." Much of this atmosphere of moderation can be put down to the influence of Gordon Wilson, the party's chairman and chief spokesman since 1979. Wilson admirably fits the role of managing director of Scotland PLC. A mild-mannered and quick-witted Dundee solicitor, he retains his quiet authority over the party despite having lost his seat in the House of Commons at the last election.

Wilson's achievement over the past decade has been to purge Scottish nationalism of its wilder elements and bring it into the Thatcherite age, or, as he himself modestly puts it, to make it less ideological.

Last year he steered the SNP away from a neutralist and unilateralist defence policy. This afternoon, if all goes to plan, he

will make it the most fervently pro-European of all Britain's political parties.

The SNP leadership has embraced the prospect of the single European market in 1992 with an enthusiasm which must delight Lord Young of Giffordham, and which fills a substantial number of its grassroots members with horror. So keen is the party's national executive committee to fly the European flag that in drafting the conference agenda it ignored 23 amendments hostile to this afternoon's pro-Community motion.

The line that Gordon Wilson and the party's new breed of European enthusiasts is keen to sell to Scotland's business community is that, with the single European market in operation, the old arguments against separatism will cease to

specializing in high-technology industries and exporting high-value goods. Alex Neil, who joined the SNP from Labour three years ago and is the party's candidate for Glasgow in the European elections, speaks enthusiastically of the new private hospital complex in Clydebank as a model for future developments, and praises Reaganomics for achieving growth through the development of small businesses and the service sector.

Of course, no one here in Inverness would ever bring themselves to praise Mrs Thatcher, and indeed the conference yesterday ritually cocked a snook at the Prime Minister by voting in favour of a campaign of no payment of the poll tax. But there is no doubt that, in the land of Adam Smith, free-market economics is coming back into fashion.

Whether the nationalists' other new-found enthusiasm, for the European Community, will help the cause of an independent Scotland is more doubtful. Certainly the Auld Alliance with France didn't do Bonnie Prince Charlie much good.

Ian Bradley finds a businesslike air at the SNP conference

More suits than kilts

David Miller

Taking gold in a greater game

The governments of Britain and the United States remain alone in the world among developed nations not to realize the political, social and commercial value of international sport, which is about to be demonstrated by South Korea.

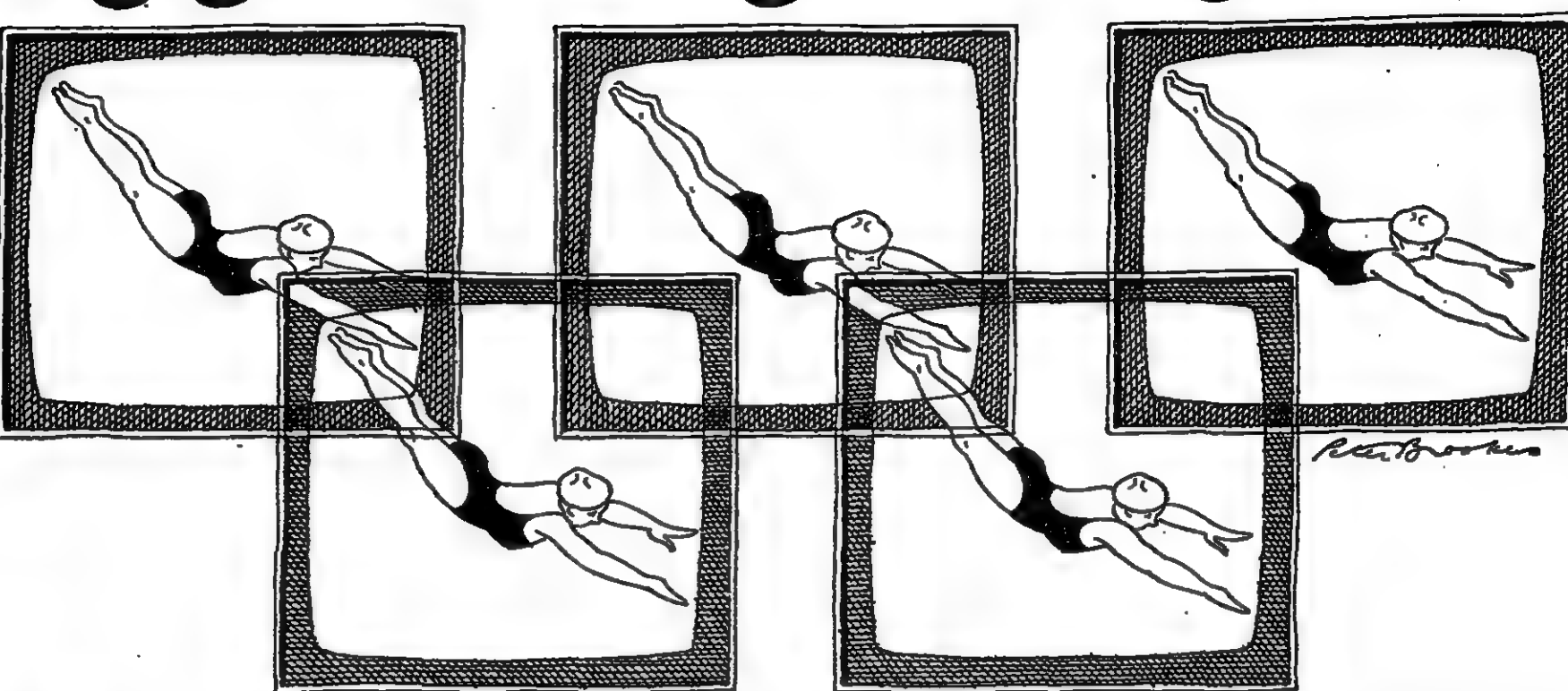
The US still has sporting success because it has four times Britain's population and immense private corporate wealth from which to sustain sport. Britain is now among the poor relations of international sport in almost every respect, as demonstrated by the derisory reaction of the Commonwealth Games Federation here yesterday to Cardiff's bid for the Games of 1994, awarded to Victoria, British Columbia, by an overwhelming majority. Cardiff never had a chance.

Seven years ago Dr Kim Un Yung, adviser to the Korean embassies of America and Britain and deputy director-general to the President's office, and also himself president of the World Taekwondo Federation, realized that his country could make an impact without parallel upon world awareness by staging the Olympic Games. Korea was already advancing through the ranks of the world's industrial producers, yet no single event could expose the nation to global publicity as could the Olympics.

With the support of General Roh Tae Woo, an emerging figure of domestic political power, Kim went to the Olympic Congress in Baden-Baden, West Germany, in 1981 to bid for the Games this year. The field was open. Munich had been terrorized by the Israeli massacre and Olympic security had become a nightmare. Montreal had the African boycott, Moscow the West boycott.

Additionally, Montreal had run up a bill in 1976 under Mayor Drapeau, thanks to over-ambitious construction and workforce strikes, that the ratepayers would be paying into the next century. Los Angeles had been the only bid, by a private business consortium, for 1984.

The unknown Koreans got the vote when environmental protestors from Nagoya, Japan, the other candidate, lined the streets of Baden-Baden. Within three years Korea, with government money, had built a main stadium second to none in the world. By 1986, as host to the



Asian Games, it had completed a unique complex of modern sports facilities. The swimming pool was unsatisfactory? They would build another by the time of the Olympic Games. Their new equestrian centre, to be used this fortnight for the first time, is without comparison.

The fee negotiated for American television rights, \$300 million, might have been half of what Korea was led to believe it could get; but other incomes from ticket sales, sponsorship, sale of Olympic village flats and so on would ensure Korea did not lose on its investment.

The risks might have been high, but so were the stakes. Korea was challenging Japan (its former colonial master), Hong Kong and China on the battlefield of commerce and politics, as well as striving to out-distance its North Korean neighbour and to prove its ultimate independence from America. The Olympic Games would achieve a level of publicity for its efforts which a million television commercials could never buy.

The danger was that North Korea, inflamed by envy of the South's favourable exposure, would attempt to fuse the magic lantern by persuading China, the Soviet Union and other socialist states, to stay away.

But China was changing, and so was the Soviet Union. China went to the Los Angeles Games and then, a critical move, to the Asian Games in 1986 here in Seoul: the Pyongyang reliance on socialist solidarity was holed below the water-line. Not only that, the Soviet Union, East Germany and others had discovered a serious setback in incentive, through absence from the Games, within their social system of privilege and advance for an army of sports performers, coaches and doctors. *Glasnost* accelerated a change in attitude to the South Korean regime.

Astute negotiations by Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, seemingly keeping the door open for North Korea to compete, had already enabled socialist countries to contemplate their own participation, never mind the absence of diplomatic relations. The thaw in the cold war began and, to the acute embarrassment of North Korea, harmonious relations between South Korea and the communist bloc are advancing rapidly.

To South Korea, the staging of the Olympic Games has been like the success of Jaguar at Le Mans in the 1950s. They had, and have, to produce the goods for the public, but their name,

for much of the past four years and for almost every hour of the next fortnight, is on a billion lips. Kim's imaginative and almost anonymous bid seven years ago may in time prove to have been as profound an influence on the balance of Asian commercial affairs as Japan's staging of the Games in Tokyo, the first in Asia, in 1964. That, too, was a calculated commercial campaign.

The fact that South Korea's sporting achievement, reaching out to challenge the former dominance of Japan and the new power of China, is faster growing than in most countries, is almost incidental. South Korea is expected to be among the top eight medal winners.

What is inexplicable, and what some may regret, is the contemporary link between sport and money and social (structural) development. It is a link of which the Manchester committee, led by Robert Scott, the theatrical entrepreneur who is here to evaluate Seoul's organization, is well aware. An Olympic Games in Manchester in 1996, the centenary year, could help reshape and revitalize the North-west of England beyond all expectation: just as it would

reshape Athens, Greece's suffocating, under-developed capital. It needs to celebrate its own centenary more out of social necessity, for the redevelopment that would be generated, than out of any historic sense of pride.

Toronto and Atlanta are equally enthusiastic. Ever since Los Angeles, made a profit of \$220 million, there is no shortage of volunteer cities.

The Olympic Games, for better or worse, are a colossal commercial force; and from the unexpected victory yesterday by tiny Lillehammer of Norway, population 25,000, in the bid to host the Olympic Winter Games of 1994, it is abundantly evident that Manchester has a realistic chance, if it is not blighted by the confused British record on the anti-apartheid issue that wrecked Edinburgh's Commonwealth Games and, largely, Cardiff's attempt this week.

Mrs Thatcher should take note that the campaign (unsuccessful) by Paris two years ago for the 1992 summer Games was personally led by Jacques Chirac, and that here in Seoul the Norwegian final presentation to the IOC was fronted by the Prime Minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland; and that of Östersund of Sweden, the run-

ner-up yesterday, by King Gustav. Cardiff's courageous, vain effort, backed by the city council, was hopelessly overwhelmed by the \$86 million guarantee from federal and provincial governments for Victoria.

The Olympic Games present not merely an Aladdin's lamp to host cities: they are a bull ring of intense action for commercial operators. Visa, the credit card organization, has put \$14 million into the Calgary/Seoul sponsorship programme organized for the IOC by ISL Marketing of Lucerne, and has spent \$25 million worldwide to advertise its involvement.

The Minneapolis/St. Paul company, 3M, one of America's largest, in an attempt to raise its image outside the States, invested \$15 million in the IOC package, with a further \$50 million in worldwide back-up. 3M's marketing analysts will decide in November whether the results justify repeating the process for Albertville/Barcelona in 1992. They are looking this time for a 10 per cent increase in market awareness.

It is perhaps time that the mandarins of Whitehall came to recognize that there is rather more to sport than running fast in a circle or putting on a pair of swimming trunks.

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

The usefulness of unions

The growth and display of anti-trade union sentiments in the past couple of weeks is disturbing. To encourage and capitalize upon it, as the Government is doing, is dangerous. It is also highly offensive to the millions of workers who belong to unions, which they have created and sustained to advance and protect their vocational interests. The attack on their organizations must, necessarily, be seen as being an assault upon themselves. Why, they want to know, is a Tory government that has done so much to promote the aspirations and welfare of working people suddenly so intent on humiliating and undermining their industrial leaders?

It is true that some unions, and especially the TUC, have not exactly presented themselves recently as sensible and responsible contributors to the national well-being. Some give the impression of having perversely gone out of their way to court public disapproval and to commit political suicide. The damage that they and Ron Todd of the transport union have done to the Labour Party is incalculable and probably terminal.

But the imbecility of the TUC and some of its affiliates is not a reason, still less a justification, for the Government to embark upon a campaign of general vilification or to banish the unions from Whitehall. The TUC's decision to boycott the Training Commission was, it is true, crass and monumental folly. But it is no excuse for Norman Fowler to sever all of the TUC's links with the Gov-

ernment. That would be even more stupid, and spiteful. It would also be counter-productive.

Like it or not, the TUC represents nine million workers and their families. It is their chosen spokesman on industrial matters. It has authority, legitimacy and credibility in raising their grievances and articulating their views. It often gets things wrong. It is frequently inadequate. It sometimes makes a fool of itself. None of this can be denied. But neither can the fact that it is the only national representative organization that working people have. Its not just the best that they've got, it is all they have.

No other organization can perform the functions of the TUC, or even pretend to. There is no way that the EETPU, the Union of Democratic Mine-workers or any other body of organized workers outside of the Congress House, no matter how sincere and well intentioned, can take on its responsibilities. Not only do these would-be surrogates lack the troops, they are bereft of the appropriate experience and authority. Electricians cannot think for dockers, the UDM cannot represent teachers.

The Government should know this. The TUC is, and must be, an integral part of Britain's industrial, social and political landscape. It has to be worked with, not made an enemy of. It is true that it is losing members. Its influence is in decline. But it will not disappear and it cannot be ignored, or only at a price.

But, then, no one with any real

understanding of industrial society would want to ignore it. Apart from the fact that it is the chosen and exclusive representative of almost a majority of working people, it also has a great deal of specialist knowledge and experience to put at the disposal of the community.

The value of this, and of having a single representative of working people able to speak with confident authority on their behalf, have been recognized and welcomed by Government of all three parties for nearly a century. The process of embracing the unions in the machinery of government did not begin with the post-war administration, as some seem to believe. The unions had been made partly responsible for the administration of the Port of London as long ago as 1908. Churchill sought their advice in 1909 on the details of his labour exchange and his national insurance scheme. They were entitled to appoint representatives to advise the Board of Trade on the mining industry in the 1920s and, among other things, sat on the First World War Pensions Committee. The process has continued ever since, and so it should.

It is important to kill off the anti-trade union philosophy that is developing. The new-found and Government-encouraged confidence of some employers, especially those from abroad, that has enabled them to insist on single-union, no-strike or no-union agreements, might look attractive and even trendy, but such employers are only storing

up trouble for the future. What their admirers seem to forget is that the unions have traditionally been conducive to good industrial relations. They are the enablers of orderly and stable collective agreements. The Donovan Commission paid testimony to this. It acknowledged that the unions were lubricants rather than irritants, a force for order rather than a cause of chaos.

This is why collective bargaining and trade unionism have been encouraged by employers and governments for decades. Neither was responding to fad or embracing a fashion, as today's union-knockers seem to be. Rather, they were accepting an industrial reality which also happened to be the means of conducting orderly negotiations. They also accepted what the anti-trade unionists of today seem to deny: that it is the worker's prerogative to determine who shall represent him when selling his labour, and that his right is not abrogated by the receipt of a pay packet.

The British trade union movement has many faults. But it also has a long and fine tradition of service to the working people that created it, and indeed to the country as a whole. This should be recognized by some of its current critics. They should also understand that as long as there is labour and capital so there will also, quite probably, be unions.

The pity of it is that there's not a union leader willing or able, or with time enough off from internal squabbling and the nobbling of the Labour Party, to get up on his feet and say so.

SEPT 16 ON THIS DAY 1929

After the defeat of Germany in 1918, it took some time for the Allies to decide how Germany was to be "policed". Not unnaturally, the French feared a future German attack. By the end of 1929 British troops had come home.

RHINE ARMY

(From Our Special Correspondent)
WIESBADEN, Sept 15
Saturday was "zero day," when a definite start was made with the withdrawal proper of the British Army on the Rhine. In accordance with the official evacuation scheme the British garrisons stationed on the extreme north-western and north-eastern border of the British occupied zone were the first units to be withdrawn — namely, the 2nd Battalion, The Dorsetshire Regiment, from Moore Barracks at Bad Schwalbach, and the 2nd Battalion, The Leicestershire Regiment, from Givenchy Barracks at Königstein.

In this quiet village [Bad Schwalbach] hardly any of the inhabitants appeared at first to be aware that they were on the eve of an important event. But all were aroused by the strains of military music in the early hours of the afternoon. The small detachment of the Dorsets, led by their regimental band to the stirring tune of "Old Comrades", marched through the main thoroughfare of the village with a smart soldiery bearing and a perfect military discipline, accompanied all the way down to the station by a throng of children. At the station the band played popular melodies, ending

with "It's a long way to Tipperary", which ever since the beginning of the occupation has remained one of the most popular tunes with the British Army of the Rhine.

As for the mutual feelings of the German population and of the British troops at the hour of separation, it would be, in my opinion, a mistake to classify them strictly under either of the headings "rejoicing" or "sorrow". A clear distinction should be made between, on the one hand, the healthy conceivable patriotic relief and joy of the German civilians at the close of the occupation, and the necessarily military point of view of the British troops, and, on the other hand, the purely human sentiments of both sides. It may be stated without exaggeration that the latter sort of feeling prevailed, for the relations between the German citizens and the British soldiers have or have not been cordial.

As the result of their efficient and gentlemanlike behaviour the courtesy with which they have set about their duties the British forces were behind them a favour. No wonder general subdued tone of regret should mark when such bonds severed. The brief business relations that carried a weight of no signs of public demonstrations each, Königstein. To the same British military endeavoured effects of the render it as sible", the general was as Wiesbaden passed invisible.

صبراً من الامل



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SLOW DOWN

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, has two important stage performances ahead of him during the next few weeks. At the International Monetary Fund meeting in Berlin and again at the Conservative Party Conference in Brighton he will be called upon to account for his policies and explain recent developments in the economy.

The task will be a good deal more difficult than it would have been in the early summer. Then, Mr Lawson could point to a faster rate of growth than any other leading country, a still stable rate of inflation and a Budget which, if it fell short of root-and-branch reform, could still be described as the most important encouragement to the supply side of Britain's economy for years. Even the public argument with the Prime Minister over exchange rate policy left the Chancellor politically stronger.

Today the Budget is looking less well-judged than it did, inflation is rising and the current account of the balance of payments is heading for the biggest deficit since North Sea oil came fully on stream. To take account of these developments interest rates have been raised to 12 per cent and may have to go up again before Mr Lawson faces the Tory faithful in Brighton.

If the Chancellor had his time over again he would not doubt try to bring growth in the economy back to a more sustainable rate by planning for a bigger Budget surplus this year than he in fact did. But that judgement is made with the benefit of hindsight.

At the start of the year practically no one expected growth in the world economy to be as fast as it has actually been. The German economy, for instance, was expected to grow by no more than 1 per cent instead of more than 3 per cent that is now in prospect, and the outlook in France has improved nearly as much. The underlying speed of growth during the second half of last year was badly underestimated and the effect of the stock market crash overestimated.

This kind of mistake is supposed to be corrected by the Government's medium-term financial strategy — and perhaps it will be. The whole point of planning a strategy over the medium term is that the country's economic managers do not attempt to tune the economy so finely as to bring about the number they first thought of in any particular 12-month period.

When fine-tuning was fashionable, it tended

to accentuate the fluctuations in economic growth and inflation rather than smooth them out. Instead, the Government describes the direction of the path it wishes the economy to take over a period of years and formulates its plans to try to arrive at the destination — even if not by the exact path originally envisaged.

Setting policy within the framework of the medium-term strategy is not quite as straightforward, however, as ministers sometimes make out. The Budget surplus this year, or public sector debt repayment (PSDR) as the Chancellor likes to refer to it, is turning out considerably bigger than planned in the Budget. In one sense, therefore, policy is already tighter than expected. Yet, as Mr Lawson has admitted, that growth has been unsustainably fast.

The judgement Mr Lawson makes next March will depend on the effect this summer's rise in interest rates has already had by then in cooling demand. Changes in interest rates do not work instantaneously. The Government needs to assess the effects of 12 per cent base rates in curbing high street spending and the giddy rise in house prices over the next few months.

Conventional analysis might stop there. Yet the capacity to supply is just as important in setting the right policy framework as the level of demand. Even the sceptics have now mostly conceded that the supply side of the British economy has significantly improved during the past few years. A high level of new investment has made industry more productive, competition has been fostered more widely and labour relations set in a more satisfactory framework. The economy has become more efficient.

The significance of the Chancellor's most recent Budget will over a period prove as important for supply as it has over a shorter timespan for demand. These improvements in economic efficiency will permit a higher level of demand in safety.

It will be demanding a good deal of the very different audiences in Berlin and in Brighton to direct their attention towards the medium term. Yet that is what the Chancellor should ask them to do. The short-term priority meanwhile is to slow down the present over-rapid growth in the economy to a more sustainable rate.

THE BONN-PARIS AXIS

Western Europe has spun on a Franco-German axis for most of the time since the Second World War. But the movement has been neither as smooth nor as effortless as is sometimes supposed. Reports of a grating noise in Bonn and Paris suggest some current strains upon the mechanism.

The foundations of what was already a sound working relationship were cemented by the Franco-German friendship treaty of 1963. Last January, the two governments celebrated the silver jubilee of that historic accord by signing a second agreement. This set up two councils, one covering defence and the other finance, to co-ordinate their policies in future.

It was the former (and the associated decision to set up a joint army brigade) which excited most attention — if only because of the British Government's misgivings. But it is the latter which was valued most in Paris and which is now causing trouble.

However closely they may be driven towards Bonn by their commercial and other interests, the French have always regarded their former adversaries as rivals. French resentment is most apparent in financial matters, in particular over the extent of France's economic dependence on West Germany. It is the Deutschmark not the French franc which rules in Europe.

The French saw the Finance Council as a vehicle they could use to persuade the West Germans to adopt more expansionist policies and lower interest rates. Two months ago, however, the Bundesbank not only raised key interest rates, but signally failed to consult its French friends first. It did not even bother to inform Paris until less than 24 hours before it acted.

One result was that, a mere six months after

the back-slapping and cork-popping that had accompanied the signing of the Franco-German agreement, the French Finance Minister, M. Pierre Bérégovoy, launched a forthright attack on the monetarists in Bonn for acting as a "lone cavalier" in Europe. Another consequence is that the treaty, which should have been ratified this autumn, now looks likely to be delayed until next spring. This might be clarified at today's Finance Council meeting in Frankfurt.

Although French sensitivity is one cause of the treaty's present difficulties, another source of misunderstanding lies within the Bundesbank. The bank, sometimes called West Germany's strategic deterrent, enjoys (and jealously guards) a unique degree of autonomy in Bonn. It made clear from the outset its resentment at the very idea of a formal treaty which might oblige it to surrender some of this "sovereignty" over policies.

The West German Foreign Ministry, under the control of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, remains anxious to promote the treaty in the interests of political co-operation between the two countries. But the Bundesbank is strongly resisting such pressure and has enlisted powerful support from German industry. In such circumstances, ratification of the January treaty will be much more difficult than it once seemed.

It may still happen, but some compromises will probably be necessary along the way. For instance, the treaty may require a preamble which enshrines the Bundesbank's claim to independence from outside pressure, and this might not be well received in Paris. There is little fear that the Franco-German axis will stop spinning, but the machinery once more looks in need of maintenance.

OPPOSING THE GENERAL

For Chile's opposition parties, the current plebiscite campaign on General Pinochet's rule is their chance to offer an alternative. Two main blocs have appeared: the Christian Democrats and their smaller allies, and the Communist Party and its associates on the far left. Chileans have long been among the most politically minded peoples of Latin America, and within these groups there is no shortage of individual parties to choose from.

In General Pinochet they all have a shrewd and ruthless opponent. He is no mere Latin American caudillo and has done all he can to stack the cards in his favour. For years opposition groups were banned and demonized, although the activities of the non-Marxist parties were sometimes accorded a certain tolerance. Even now they have been allowed to come out into the open, they tend to appear in a negative light.

The constitution does not allow the opposition parties to present an alternative candidate to General Pinochet — and when the Christian Democrats suggested that they should none the less name one, the smaller partners refused. So they have been reduced to campaigning for a "no" vote. This has enabled General Pinochet to present the issue in the time-honoured formulation: me or chaos.

This is reinforced by the uncertainty about what will happen if there is a "no" majority on October 5. It would be a clear disavowal of General Pinochet and, by implication, of military rule. But the General would be allowed to remain in office for a further year, and he would still be head of the Army and the National Security Council. No party or party

leader would have a formal mandate to negotiate a transition to civilian rule.

The Christian Democrats can, however, draw on considerable experience of office, even though it was back in the administration of Eduardo Frei in the 1960s. Their leaders, old and new, have been active in the campaign. They are taking pains to present themselves as a modern alternative to the Pinochet regime. They would reintroduce democracy, but not completely reverse the current free-market policies, which have been notably successful. They would simply give them a greater social content.

The traditionally powerful Communist Party has significantly been excluded from the Christian Democrat bloc. The Communists were in any case reluctant to take part in the plebiscite, taking the view that the opposition could not win. The Christian Democrats, with their centrist faction in control, were anxious not to be tainted by association with the left, and in particular the Popular Unity Government of Salvador Allende, who was overthrown in 1973 and widely discredited.

In spite of the abysmal human rights record of the Pinochet years, the plebiscite is not just about democracy as against military dictatorship. It is also about economic and social policies. Here, despite ups and downs, General Pinochet can point to considerable achievements. Chile is the economic success story of Latin America, even if the prosperity is unevenly distributed. The task of the opposition is to convince the middle class that they will not jeopardize this — and could even do better.

European views on rule of law

From Mr Colin Dauris
Sir, The statement by M. Jacques Delors to the TUC (report, September 9) that it was impossible to rebuild Europe on regulation highlights the fundamental difference between the British attitude to legislation and that in the other major countries of the European Community.

The legal systems in those countries are based on civil law, a system codified in Byzantium, itself a byword for administrative complexity. Under these systems generally one may do only what is legally permitted. Regulation is therefore considered normal and ordinary citizens, insured against the likelihood of change, much less of deregulation, become accustomed to evading or ignoring inconvenient laws.

Under the common law the general rule is that one may do whatever is not legally prohibited. Citizens still expect that, at least after the making of enough fuss, unacceptably burdensome laws are likely to be ameliorated or even repealed.

The differences of approach under the respective systems are contrasted in the reactions to EC proposals. The Commission produces "impact assessments" which estimate the effects and probable costs to businesses of draft directives. Till now, at least, the UK Government seems to have been the only one to make comments regularly on the assessments. Indeed, some Brussels officials have come to consider these assessments as just a British device to frustrate smooth development of the Community.

Secondly, the representative organizations of the independent businesses in many member states often appear to accept with equanimity the Commission's proposals for regulation, provided there is a *quid pro quo* in the form of an EC grant or other cheap finance for their businesses. This reaction is complemented by that of Community officials who, when told of a burden on businesses, respond by explaining the availability of a grant, not by considering the possibility of repealing or amending the offending regulation.

The attitude of M. Delors seems counter-productive to those who recognize that a market will stagnate if regulated beyond a critical level. It is, however, founded in a tradition which is deeply rooted in most EC states, but which seems foreign to us.

Yours etc,
COLIN DAURIS,
Goodalls, Middle Street,
Nazeing, Essex,
September 12.

Studies of conflict

From the Director, Institute for European Defence & Strategic Studies
Sir, While it is entirely appropriate that Michael Goodwin's record as director of the Institute for the Study of Conflict should have been recognised, it is regrettable that his obituary (September 9) should have implied criticism of Brian Crozier, his predecessor.

Crozier not only founded the institute, but gave it a remarkable vigour, energy and growth. Under his direction the series of conflict studies quickly established a reputation for uncompromising but informed analyses of communist-inspired aggression and expansion which were widely read and used by scholars, Civil Servants, and members of the Armed Services at home and abroad.

It is wrong to imply that because under Crozier's direction its publications were often controversial they were flawed. Indeed, the detailed and substantial *Annual of Power and Conflict*, based on another of Crozier's original conceptions, was held in regard by students of international relations as an extremely reliable and useful reference work.

It is sad that this had to be discontinued not long after Crozier's departure as director because of economic reasons and that the excellent newspaper cuttings library, which had been available to all serious scholars, whatever their political beliefs, should first have had to be run down and finally disposed of for similar reasons.

Michael Goodwin's qualities were real ones, but it is unfortunate that in acknowledging these you should have appeared to criticise those of his dynamic predecessor.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD FROST, Director,
Institute for European Defence & Strategic Studies,
13/14 Golden Square, W1.

Troubles in Ireland

From Mr N. R. Taylor
Sir, Whilst Mrs Maureen Gray (September 3) certainly picked on one of the key issues to resolving the North Irish problem — integrated schooling — it must be pointed out that the Government is morally forced into endorsing a segregated educational system.

Northern Irish State-run

Judgment of Solomon

From Mr Henry Seymour
Sir, Because of the Pope's recent visit to South Africa (report, September 15) will he now be blacklisted from touring India? Yours sincerely,
HENRY SEYMOUR,
The Dover House,
West Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire,
September 15.

Iraqi attitudes to Kurdish claims

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, To discredit eye-witness reports by Iraqi Kurds of the devastating chemical attacks on them by Government aircraft the Ambassador and other Iraqi spokesmen have lately taken to speaking of the Kurds as being no better than gangsters and bandits, as traitors to their own country (by which they mean Iraq) in its hour of peril by fighting alongside and accepting material aid from a mortal enemy (Iran) in its invasion of their homeland. This is a total misrepresentation of the facts.

The Kurds of Iraq have been at war with Baghdad, fighting for basic democratic rights and ultimately autonomy, since 1961, with occasional frail truces. Their armed struggle thus antedates the Iraq-Iran war by more than a decade.

They have no genetic, political, or religious affinity with Iran or the Iranian revolution (they are easy-going Sunnis) but happen to share a common enemy with them: Saddam Hussein. This has been the sole reason for Iran supporting them, on a relatively minor scale under the Shah, till it urged him to abandon them in 1975, and more extensively under Khomeini until the recent ceasefire.

The Kurds do not regard Iraq as "their own country" — any more than Ireland, for example, so regarded the United Kingdom in 1916-21. They seek a state of their own, as promised to them by the Allies under the Treaty of Sévres in 1920.

It was only because Britain, in particular, later reneged on these treaty obligations that no State of Kurdistan was created, embracing those Kurdish regions that had fallen within the Ottoman Empire. Instead they were partitioned and allocated to the tender mercies of Turkey, Syria, and Iraq. In each case successive governments

Vaccination for all

From Dr E. L. Teare

Sir, From October 1 the mumps, measles, rubella vaccine (MMR) will be offered to all pre-school children with the ultimate aim of eradicating these three infections from the UK. It is notable that we have been singularly less successful in controlling these diseases than other countries, particularly North America. In the UK these three infections still cause very significant morbidity and occasionally mortality.

Measles is highly infectious and can cause encephalitis and per-

Cholera protection

From Dr John Seaman

Sir, Mr Toby Jesse's observations (September 14) in Bengal in 1971 of the attempted enforcement of mass cholera immunization by making this a condition for food distribution are correct. His contention that this was effective either in ensuring that immunization was done, or in preventing an epidemic, is not.

Current cholera vaccines (as opposed to measles and some other vaccines) have little effect and no place in epidemic prevention or control. The persistence of cholera immunization after disasters results more from its popularity with bureaucrats and politicians, for whom it provides a quick, cheap, and highly visible activity.

In the camp in which I worked in West Bengal in 1971, one of the most accessible to immunization, very few people were actually immunized. Most simply bought a forged stamp, which was much quicker and more convenient than seeking out a vaccinator and queuing for hours. The practice was soon abandoned.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SEAMAN (Senior Overseas Medical Officer),
The Save the Children Fund,
Mary Datchelor House,
17 Grove Lane, Camberwell, SE5,
September 14.

No time like present

From Sir Alan Cottrell

Sir, I appreciated the story in *The Times* Diary (September 14) about my good friend, Lord Plumb, and his problem in the Sovetskaya Hotel. However, I have to point out to him that the lady receptionist, in her negative response to his question, "Isn't now a specific time?", was philosophically impenetrable. Now is the most unspecific of all times, since every single moment of human time is a now.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN COTTRELL,
40 Maids Causeway, Cambridge,
September 14.

schools are, as in all other parts of Britain, in principle non-sectarian; and there do exist integrated schools where a few Catholics are educated alongside Protestants. However, the Catholic Church, as a general rule, actively discourages their children from being educated at schools outside their sphere of influence. Similarly, they prevent attendance at those schools of Protestants.

Is Mrs Gray suggesting that the Government should adopt the politically perilous step of declining to fund Catholic schools, or merely that they should exert more influence over the power of the Catholic Church in Northern Ireland?

Yours faithfully,
N. R. TAYLOR,
Holly Lodge,
79 Larkhill Rise, SW4,
September 14.

Isis Innovation has long roots

From Mr D. B. Welbourn, FENG

Sir, Regrettably, the writer of your leader, "Innovation on the Isis" (September 7), failed to mention the foresight and generosity of the Wolfson Foundation, which 18 years ago provided universities with £2 million to enable them to set up industrial collaboration units, and followed up this initial pump-priming activity with further large sums. Tribute should be paid to the trustees of the Wolfson Foundation, and in particular to Lord Zuckerman, for their far-sightedness.

If British industry has been less willing to collaborate with the universities than it might have been, much of the blame must be laid on our schooling system, which allows boys and girls to leave school immature.

In Germany, with which we are often compared unfavourably in the field of industrial collaboration, no one can get into an arts or any other faculty without having done mathematics and either physics or chemistry, as well as their own and a foreign language — and history, as compulsory subjects in their school-leaving examination. Mr Baker, take note!

Once independence has been achieved, however, such erstwhile gangsters soon become respected heads of state, applauded and acclaimed for their high moral standards and democratic principles, often welcomed as honoured guests by the governments of countries that ruled them, whilst the latter guerrilla leaders, no longer bandits, form the nucleus of their governments.

This fact of history accounts for the different evaluations, as between the Baghdad Government and myself, of Jalal Talabani and Massud Barzani, the joint Kurdish leaders in Iraq, as their *Peshmarga* freedom fighters.

Yours etc,
JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords,
September 14.

ment brain damage. It may also be associated with ear infections, bronchitis, and pneumonia, sometimes leading to long-term respiratory complications. Each year some children die as a result of measles.

Mumps is the most common cause of childhood viral meningitis and may result in permanent deafness. Mumps results in about 1,200 hospital admissions per year in England and Wales.

Rubella in pregnancy still causes an average of 20 cases of the congenital rubella syndrome each year.

Whilst vaccination remains voluntary, our efforts may well be unsuccessful, as there are still many families and social groups who refuse all kinds of vaccination for a variety of reasons. For the benefit of the population as a whole it might be preferable to make completion of a vaccination course (in the absence of genuine contra-indications) a legal requirement for school entry.

In the United States, where this policy already exists, mumps, measles, and rubella are virtually extinct.

Yours faithfully,
LOUISE TEARE (consultant microbiologist),
Chelmsford Public Health Laboratory Service,
New Whittle Street,
Chelmsford, Essex,
September 9.

Postal dispute

From the Chief Land Registrar

Sir, In reply to Mr Penny's letter (September 12) HM Land Registry does not "subscribe" in any formal sense to the services provided by private companies. It permits the delivery of mail by this means but, as Mr Penny indicates, there is no facility for its despatch.

The possibility of making use of this courier (the document exchange system) has been kept under continuous review, but a number of difficulties have stood in the way. Not least is the volume of the registry's business.

During the course of last year well over eight million applications of various types, including many involving bulky packets, have been despatched by the registry. The service of the Post Office could not be entirely excluded and the registry would have to take on the additional burden of sorting the post between them and the private courier. A satisfactory service is usually provided by the Post Office and our financial arrangement with them is of a competitive nature.

The possibility of using private couriers is still being kept in mind. Before the start of the present dispute the first steps had been taken towards mounting a trial based on the registry's three locations in the Plymouth area.

Yours faithfully,
E. J. PRYER,
Chief Land Registrar,
HM Land Registry,
Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2,
September 14.

From Dr M. Kingsley Williams
Sir, In order to correct local inequalities of supply and demand the Post Office, with Government backing, wishes to introduce local wage differentials.

The secretarial service to consultants — a vital part of the NHS — is collapsing here because the employing district health au-

Until the postal backlog is cleared letters to the Editor may be sent to a temporary fax number,
(01) 782 5864.

Pupils in Wandsworth

From Mr Donald Naismith

Sir, In response to Mr Fletcher's letter (September 14), may I make it clear that I have no plans for teaching citizenship in Wandsworth when I take up my position there next month. The curriculum policy of the new authority will be decided by the council after extensive consultation with all concerned.

At this stage I should merely like to say that I hope we will be able to teach our young people not to jump to conclusions without checking the facts. Yours faithfully,
DONALD NAISMITH,
Director of Education, Croydon,
The Education Department,
Taberner House, Park Lane,
Croydon, Surrey,
September 14.

thority is not allowed by Govern-

ment to do precisely this.

Sauce for the goose... Yours faithfully,
M. K. WILLIAMS (Chairman,
GP Division, Mid-Surrey Health Authority),
Sharnford Lodge, Fortyfoot Road,
Leatherhead, Surrey,
September 13.

From Mrs R. M. L. Sykes
Sir, This morning I received my first letter since the postal dispute began. It came from the Customer Care Department of the Post Office in Brighton, requiring details of an item that had gone astray. It was posted yesterday.

Apt, prompt and efficient? Yours faithfully,
ROSALIND SYKES,
Wandsworth, Mid-Surrey Health Authority,
Farnham, Farnham, Surrey,
September 14.

From the Rev Geoffrey C. Lee
Sir, This morning my postman came back to work. He delivered one electricity bill.

Is there any way he can be persuaded to go on strike again? Yours truly,
GEOFFREY C. LEE,
63 Hotham Road,
Putney, SW15,
September 14.

From Mr Ivor Turnbull
Sir, One method of dealing with junk mail which clutters the fax machine (letter, September 15) is to keep a blacklist of products and services so advertised and to advise the sender (by fax, of course) that his name has been added to the list.

Yours etc,
IVOR TURNBULL, Editor,
Antiques Trade Gazette,
17 Whitcomb Street, WC2,
September 15.

From Mr Victor Stone
Sir, I have the answer to Mr Barrington's problem of a hindered outgoing message — two fax machines, one with an ex-directory number. I would have dearly liked a second machine in the last few days!
Yours etc,
VICTOR STONE, Solicitor,
8 Thurlow Street,
South Kensington, SW7,
September 15.

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Black man's burden

Is the strain showing on Lenny Henry? The burden is, of course, quite unfair: here he is, an extremely funny man just trying to be extremely funny, while the world expects him to bear the whole weight of black consciousness on television. Instead of a range of black performers being serious or comic about all kinds of issues, there is instead one over-exposed talent attempting to cram into his half-hour as many pointed comments as possible, providing role models for a generation.

It is an impossible task, and it says a lot for the resilience of Lenny and his script writers (Stan Hey and Andrew Nickolds) that *The Lenny Henry Show* (BBC1) does not disintegrate under the weight of the expectations dumped on it. Still, it is not as carefree as it was. There is now a much more carefully crafted story line, which will take in comments on the health service, credit cards, consumerism and the like.

Delbert Wilkins, now upwardly mobile in a lift to the top floor of a Brixton tower-block, has been dumped from his job as a television anchorman and is setting up a pirate radio station in opposition to the local, trendy commercial Brixton Broadcasting Corporation. This shows Delbert branching out on his own in a calling which combines his fatal lack of inhibition with his dramatic shortage of talent.

The other BBC is peopled with hilarious caricatures, notably the hearty policeman with his own phone-in, but for me this first show was stolen by Vas Blackwood's laid-back Winston, who presents his show with all the enthusiastic flair of someone reading from a telephone directory. Delbert's own show, reduced when the electricity runs out to being bawled from the roof tops, is not much better. Winston is the sunniest straight man in the business; Lenny, meanwhile, is only slightly transformed from himself as Delbert, and it is difficult to believe this one character can sustain the series.

William Holmes

Simon Banner meets Pat O'Connor, director of *Stars and Bars*, a film fallen foul of studio politics

Hardened in Hollywood



Advantage taken disadvantaged: Pat O'Connor is still happy making films in Hollywood

"Being Irish, I have always found America a very welcoming place," says film director Pat O'Connor. "For one thing, I have 24 first cousins living there. What's more, Americans have a sort of corrupt attitude toward the Irish, which the Irish always take full advantage of. I don't think it's the same for the English at all."

That it is, indeed, not the same for the English, is very much the essence of O'Connor's new film, opening next week, a screen adaptation of William Boyd's comic novel, *Stars and Bars*. Henderson Dore, the upper middle class protagonist played by Daniel Day-Lewis, may love America to the point of infatuation, but America does not seem inclined to love the mild-mannered English art historian back.

What America has in mind instead, and what the boisterous film catalogues with sly glee, is humiliation on a grand scale, culminating with Henderson being obliged to run through the streets of Manhattan clad only in a cardboard box. According to O'Connor, however, this represents a triumph for the previously "buttoned-down" Englishman, albeit "a tatty triumph." "He's made a journey from being tense and antagonistic towards a society he doesn't feel comfortable in, to feeling comfortable with America and with himself. He's still striving to belong at the end of the film, but he's become a hero too."

If an Irishman seems an unlikely candidate to direct a comic saga of Anglo-American misunderstanding, O'Connor is doubly unlikely in that role, given the serious tone of his two previous feature films: *Cal*, a love story set against a background of violence in Northern Ireland, and the period piece, *A Month in the Country*. O'Connor can see connections. "They're all about people coming to terms with their innermost fears, although *Stars and Bars* happens to be primarily comic. Not that I necessarily had to think of it as a comedy. I wasn't trying to do a film with so many laughs per minute. I thought of it in terms of character, and if you do a film about these characters, it's going to be comic." These characters go by such evocative names as Freeborn, Shanda, Duane, Gint and Alma-May, played by some of Hollywood's finest character actors, including Harry Dean Stanton, Spalding Gray, Martha Plimpton, and one with a name as unlikely as any invented by Boyd: Rockets Redglare.

Pat O'Connor was 19 when he went to America for the first time. He had grown up surrounded by "a lot of warmth and not too much religion," in a village near to Waterford. "We were cut-off," he remembers, "even from urban Ireland. And this was during the Fifties."

After a year in London spent doing a variety of odd jobs, he took up a place at the

University of California in Los Angeles, and went from there to film school in Toronto. In 1970 he returned to Ireland as a trainee producer-director for RTE, working on a succession of documentaries and dramas. It was his award-winning and rather melancholy film, *The Ballroom of Romance*, which David Puttnam saw and immediately asked O'Connor to direct *Cal*. Puttnam co-produced *Cal*, and, once chairman of Columbia Pictures, gave the go-ahead and the \$7 million which enabled O'Connor to make *Stars and Bars*.

By the time *Stars and Bars* was ready for release in the United States, Puttnam's reign as a Hollywood power-broker had come to an ignominious end, and the new regime at Columbia, predictably anxious to discredit the old, displayed little enthusiasm for any Puttnam-approved pictures. In the case of *Stars and Bars*, O'Connor believes that Columbia were "simply brutal". A major studio will usually back a new release in America by spending as much as half again on prints, advertising and promotion as it has on the film's production. Yet the \$5 million allotted to support *Stars and Bars* by David Puttnam's Columbia dwindled, according to Pat O'Connor, to a mere \$86,000 after Puttnam's demise, and the film sank without trace.

"They weren't even going to release it in any city until I kicked up a fuss," O'Connor says. "Eventually we got it into one cinema in New York. But it really had very little chance at all. They had a black and white poster. The cheapest, tastiest, most unimaginative poster I've seen in my life. And that was about all the promotion they did. There were no interviews with me or with the cast. And of course it was just a way of paying David Puttnam back."

"Hollywood's a very tough community, a very cynical community, and there are a lot of extremely wealthy people there who aren't much interested in art or anything like that, but only in the idea that a film should be as commercially accessible to as many people as possible, full stop. David wanted to do things differently, so it doesn't surprise me that they didn't give him time to prove he was right. It was important to them that he should be proved wrong."

Toughened up, he says, by his experiences, O'Connor has already made his second Hollywood film. *The January Man* is a story of "corruption, betrayal, brothers, and lovers, a sort of thriller, but not an orthodox one", which should find its way here early next year. It is written by John Patrick Shanley, who wrote *Moonstruck*; it stars, among others, Kevin Kline and Susan Sarandon; and it was made by MGM. "It's a very nice studio indeed," O'Connor explains, "and easy to work with. My only hope is that they don't change between now and when the film is released."

CONCERTS

Opulent radiance

BBC SO/Boulez
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Pierre Boulez's concerts with the BBC Symphony Orchestra have now become rare and special events, normally occasioned by some work of his own. On Wednesday night the principal motive was perhaps provided by Jessye Norman's long-awaited debut as the heroine of Schoenberg's *Erwartung*, but once again that has been left as something to strain the imagination; instead, Norman offered Berg's *Seven Early Songs*, which belong very much more in her territory. And she was in opulent, luxurious form, even if there were one or two unfortunate scoops and a moment of uncharacteristic vulgarity that made the roses of "Die Nachtigall" flabby and over-blown. Otherwise, her habit of even-toned radiance fitted the music with complete comfort, and was nicely offset by the pernickiness of Boulez's accompaniment.

Here was one of the central paradoxes of Berg, the coexistence of lyrical effusion and intricate mechanism, made dramatically manifest, in a way that almost justified the rival views of tempo with which a couple of the numbers opened.

Early Berg was neatly matched by late Mahler, the adagio from the Tenth Symphony, across the pivot of Webern's *Passacaglia*, heard in a dry and hectic, if sometimes muddled, performance. The Mahler, too, found the orchestra showing signs of late-From fatigue, or perhaps they were dissatisfied with Boulez's refusal of all indulgence. He now conducts this movement as a proper adagio, but absolutely no expansiveness has come with the greater breadth: the piece sounded more stunted and purposeless than it used to do when he took it faster.

The works that excite more than his respect apparently continue to be the same few which contain, like his own music, some measure of exoticism and dazzle: they include Bartók's *Miraculous Mandarin*, a splendid performance of which more than made up for the deficiencies of the first part.

After a bit of a tumble in the introductory music, the orchestra settled down to Boulez's desperate rhythmic impulse, and his feeling for the strangeness of this score: the erotic, expectant lustre of the passage in what is an uncommonly graphic musical narrative, where the girl begins to arouse the mandarin, or the appalling, cold unnaturalness of those places where organ and voices (the BBC Singers) enter to help colour the mandarin's unplaced resurrections. Miraculous it was indeed.

Paul Griffiths

A voice and a half

Raul Gimenez
Wigmore Hall

The story is worth telling. Raul Gimenez, the Argentinian tenor who made his London debut last night at the age of 37, worked in a steel foundry, married at 19, at 20 had to support a family by selling clothes from door to door, and eight years ago made his debut with the Teatro Colon.

Those who heard him at Wexford in 1984 will know that he has a voice to match: the light, forward tenor, bright with raw, open Latin vowels, steely of determination, ardent of sentiment. He has taken over Rossini (10 operas are in his repertoire), and he presented his vocal curriculum vitae last night with three of the composer's arias and two of his *Soirées musicales*.

After a trumpet-call of a recitative, Argiro's aria, "Pensa Pensa" from *Tancredi* effervesced and escalated like a Rossini overture. For Alberto (*L'occasione fa il ladro*) the diaphragm was a minutely sensitive sounding-board for passagework in which the core of every note rang on the vocal chords, virtually unaided by aspiration. The orgy and the dance of the *Soirées* would have been *tours de force* had Nina Walker's imagination and fingers been even half as agile as Gimenez's voice.

He had run himself in with five *aria antiche*, sung as they are seldom sung. Gluck's "sospirato", Caccini's "desio" and Pergolesi's "pifferi, timpani, cembali" took on new, thrillingly onomatopoeic meaning. They also gave us the first glimpse of Gimenez's half-voice, which was to find its apotheosis in his exquisite "Una furtiva lagrima", sung as the second of many encores.

This transparent *mezzo-voce* came into its artistic own in the Argentinian songs after the interval. Carlos Guastavino's three little ditties of fragile sentiment about a rose, a dove and a little home-town, were worn lightly but poignantly on the sleeve.

Ginastera offered tougher stuff. Unashamedly burying his head in the score, Gimenez focused on their sharper intensity, their acribic rhythms, while losing none of the instinctive infection and phrasing which characterizes his artistry.

Hilary Finch

Bright portrait

THEATRE

Re: Joyce
Fortune

Not the least of Joyce Grenfell's attractions to her devoted public was the fact that, in spite of a high-pressure career in films, radio, and solo performance, she retained the quality of a gifted amateur: an accomplished young lady who had moved on from drawing-room entertainment to the public stage without acquiring a trace of showbiz gloss.

Watching her, you felt that she would instantly have given the whole thing up if she had been required to look after a sick child or follow her husband to an overseas job. And she became a national institution largely because she proved that razor-sharp comedy is by no means incompatible with humdrum middle-class English virtue.

Unlike her great model, Ruth Draper, she has been kept alive by her published writings: two volumes of autobiography, a collection of letters (*Darling Ma*, Hodder and Stoughton, £14.95), and the sketches which remain so funny, even on the page, that somebody was bound to bring them back into the theatre.

Thanks to Maureen Lipman, and her compiler, James Roose-Evans, the Women's Institute president is back with us, and the sacred words, "George - don't do that", ring out anew. Re: Joyce takes its form from Grenfell's own programmes: the *disco* doing her stuff while a resourceful pianist (Denis King) holds the fort during her elegant costume changes. But, besides the sketches, the programme offers an intimate portrait of the artist, dwelling on her family life, her faith in Christian Science, and her fantasies taking flight, as a dancer.

Not much of this is performance material. It is private communication to friends and readers. What you get from Lipman is a theatricalized Grenfell character, ad-



Brave smiler: Maureen Lipman

dressing lecture audiences, or the Fortune audience, through a mask of upper-crust vowels and the famous bright, brave little smile. As a result, Joyce Grenfell the woman emerges as a choice victim for Joyce Grenfell the satirical observer.

Otherwise Alan Strachan's production is an evening of un-mixed pleasure. It contains rather too many of the songs (in which Richard Addinsell's music follows in spineless obedience to Grenfell's lyrics), but Lipman has captured exactly the melancholy sweetness of her model's voice.

And from her spikily precise hand gestures, lunging walk, and range of facial masks, she is totally in command of the sketches. One thing she shares with Grenfell is the instinct for unmalicious comedy, coupled with a killer instinct for the really decisive line - such as the poetry-fancying mother's eruption: "No dear, I don't know what it was if bird it never wert".

As the "Terrible Warrior" she follows Grenfell's instructions and plays it with tongue stuck to her lower lip; but not so far as to muffle the punch line on discovering she has won a dead rabbit in a raffle. "I thought, I'm not going to be bothered with that", before posting it through the window of a parked car. A treat.

Irving Wardle

Corn, soft porn and poppycock

OPERA

La traviata
Coliseum

Apparently the Parisian route's ideal vision, in the middle of the last century, was a blonde in her underwear amidst a field of rippling corn, with a useful red plush *chaise-longue* to hand. This is the dominant image of David Pountney's new production of Verdi's *La traviata* for English National Opera.

You may call it erotic fantasy; you may call it, as Pountney does in a lengthy and only intermittently convincing programme note, "rural idyll"; you may call it a Victorian *East of Eden*. But it is exceedingly difficult to call it *La traviata*.

This platform of corn arises in the middle of the dining tables during the soirée of Act I. Helen Field's Violetta, the image in question, has to sing the Act's closing *scena* in heavily corseted *deshabille* after her jaded guests have tossed in some payment for their evening's entertainment, just as satisfied spectators in the same era might throw coins into the ring at the end of a prize fight. In Act II she is still amidst the corn, this time in a Mabel Lucie Attwell dress, finding out in St Germain-en-Laye that life is not just a bowl of poppies. All the principals had some difficulty in making their way round the grainfield in an extremely restricted singing area.

And there were some titers from the audience: Pountney must learn to separate the wheat from the chaff.

The single set by Stefanos Lazaridis, most protean of opera designers, is visually striking in red and gold, but is too subservient to his director's whims. Ugly balconies house the top-hatted gentlemen and their doxies, who look down on Violetta's decline. By the final act the cornfields have gone, signifying that the rural idyll is over. Violetta's corpse at the close is left alone on stage to show



Convincing relationship: Helen Field as Violetta, with Alan Opie as Giorgio Germont, father of Alfredo

that she was not killed by TB but by society, which condemns girls who are born poor to stay that way or become tarts.

At this point, doubtless, sociology textbooks are thumped in approval. Others may wonder why David Pountney, who is capable of productions so full of musical and imaginative insight as *Hansel and Gretel*, should have come up with so maladroit a staging.

The singers are given little help and Arthur Davies, in particular, is a sufferer. For obscure reasons he is made to look as though he is pushing middle age, instead of being the youth Dumas and Verdi devised who is getting his first taste of the *demi-monde*. He is made to sing the close of the Act II aria flat on his back on that *chaise-longue*, as a result of which the final notes were muffled, as indeed they were in the following cabaletta. In the last act he produced some of the honeyed singing of which he is capable. Following the

disastrous Covent Garden revival of *Traviata* in which he appeared two years ago, Alfredo does not appear to be his lucky role.

Helen Field gradually struggled her way out of the early strait-jacket imposed by the production. Midway through Act II some of Violetta's temperament and Verdi's fire began to emerge, notably in the confrontation with Germont père. This relationship became far more interesting than that with his son. When Violetta finally gets Giorgio's letter wishing her a happier life in the future, Field's Violetta tosses it away with deserved contempt. By that last act the voice showed all the ability to hold Verdi's long curving line together with the mastery of the outburst of "Gran Dio. Morir".

But the most secure performance comes from Alan Opie as Germont père, a plump and self-satisfied guardian of family morals, even if not too far from Offenbachian lechers, whose com-

pany his son keeps. Opie sings in broad sweeps of tone and thoroughly deserved both verses of his Act II cabaletta.

Mark Elder encouraged his singers to long-held phrases, often adopting very slow tempi. For so accomplished a Verdian it was a quiet evening, with the strings too often below par.

The house was muted for a first night Coliseum audience. Perhaps this *Traviata* poses a larger question beyond the immediate failure of the staging. ENO has a truly deserved reputation for innovation, especially for production and design. But it is also acquiring a less enviable one for perverse interpretation of some of the cornerstones of the repertoire. With probably more of the first-time audience for a *Traviata* or a *Carmen* coming to the Coliseum than to any other British theatre that should cause some worries.

John Higgins

Lightweight fails to improve her rating

ROCK

Belinda Carlisle
Hammersmith Odeon

Belinda Carlisle's British debut was a frothy affair, which begged the question of how any performer could manage to go through so much and yet arrive with so little *gravitas* to show for it. As a founder member of the Californian group, the Go-Gos, convened in

1978, she enjoyed the fruits of success and suffered the perils of excess in roughly equal measure until their disbandment in 1984.

Her subsequent solo career has had a more purposeful air about it and she became a chart fixture in Britain for the first time last year. But, although she has (narrowly) avoided being cast in the manufactured disco-startler mould of contemporaries such as Kylie Minogue, her reputation is not based on her skills as a live performer.

Dressed in a black organza frock coat and black pedal-pushers, with her long auburn hair not fashioned into any particular style, she looked like a willowy version of the Duchess of York, as she set off at a lively canter with a bubblegum version of the old Cream song "I Feel Free".

Her four-piece band and two backing vocalists were about as exciting as a plate of mussels to watch and as they got on to "I Get Weak", attention was drawn to a circular screen at the back show-

ing film of Carlisle devoting herself to a swarthy young man. The images gave way to Carlisle moping about on sandy beaches for "Circle in the Sand" and, later, even the dreaded family album baby shots were given an airing.

Sometimes when she forced a slight rasp into her singing, as on "Nobody Ows Me", she managed to sound like a featherweight Pat Benatar, but her voice faded from the picture in the lower registers, and her performing presence was negligible.

Her music can claim to be some advance on the blandest of disco-pop, but the overall impact of this show was similar to the gently irritating sensation of brushing one's face against a cobweb.

David Sinclair

● Belinda Carlisle is at Hammersmith on Saturday, and her tour continues at Manchester Apollo (Sunday); Edinburgh Playhouse (Monday); Hammersmith Odeon again (Wednesday and Thursday); NEC, Birmingham (Saturday Sept 24); BIC, Bournemouth (Sept 26); Cornwell Coliseum (Sept 27).

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FRIDAY PAGE

Pursuing power to the purse

Sex used to be the word that sold books. Now publishers have moved on to money. Victoria McKee finds it calculating

Banks and financial institutions — not to mention authors and publishers — have discovered the "women's market" with a vengeance. You can understand why. Women are the majority of the population, handle the majority of family finances, start 43 per cent of new businesses (despite much greater difficulty in obtaining capital for them) and increasingly play a significant role in the national economy.

"Women are even spreading their wings into investment, since the average working woman is likely to have about half a million pounds go through her hands in her lifetime," says Marie Jennings, author of *Women and Money: The Midland Bank Guide* (published by Penguin on Monday, £4.99), the latest book in the proliferation to suggest that "as yet, surprisingly little has been written — in books — about women and money".

The Baroness Phillips of Fulham, JP — president of the National Association of Women's Clubs — has written a fulsome foreword, welcoming a book on money written "for 32 per cent of the population", by such a respected consumer affairs and personal finance journalist.

Jennings, who was a consultant on the television money programmes *Money-go-round* and *Moneytalker*, is a regular speaker at women's clubs and City institutions.

The book has been sponsored by "the listening bank" — the Midland — in what is another growing trend: banks sponsoring books that will give their services a higher profile. Last month Penguin published the *Lloyds Bank Tax Guide 1988/89*, by Sara Williams and John Williams (£4.99), and next month it will be publishing the *Lloyds Bank Small Business Guide*, by Sara Williams (£4.99) — not to be confused with *The Woman's Guide to Starting Your Own Business* (£6.95), a less weighty work by Deborah Fowler published a few weeks ago by Thorsons.

Williams, a financial journalist and investment analyst, believes — unfashionably? — that "money is a unisex matter", and that her advice, wrapped impressively in a green PVC-covered hardback which should be

distributed by Lloyds to those opening small business accounts, applies equally to men.

Putting "women" in the title of a book on money, she suggests, is merely a marketing ploy. "But if that makes women read something that otherwise they wouldn't I'm all in favour of it."

Jennings, not surprisingly, disagrees — but then, as she confesses, she once predicted that Jiffy Bags and Levis jeans would never take off in Britain. "Women have different priorities in life and different financial needs," she says — neatly sidestepping exactly what they are. "Women probably need to know less about money than they do about themselves," she adds cryptically. "If you know the sort of life you want you will find that money finds its proper place in it."

When pressed to specify sex differences in dealing with money, Jennings says that women have different long-term objectives for their families, tend to use credit more as a tool than a crutch, and have more time to "reflect on bigger issues while he's rushing off to the office". What about working women, then? "Oh, they have even less time," she says hastily.

The listening bank earmarked £50,000 for research projects into how women handle money since, according to Kevin Gavanagh, the Midland's marketing director, "we are aware of the growing importance of the role of the female in finance — at one end of the spectrum in areas of high male unemployment like Sheffield, at the other where 'the inheritance factor' comes into play — because women generally outlive men".

The Midland's research has categorized us — somewhat simplistically — into three types: the competent (a real financial whizz); the copter (who doesn't like finances, but can cope with them); and the casual (a dead loss at figures).

Jennings — who seems to consider these classifications terribly significant, and makes them the *raison d'être* for her book — admits she is only a copter, and a closet casual at heart. The trick, she confides, is for casuals to get competent to handle money for them



'The average working woman is likely to have about half a million pounds go through her hands in her lifetime'

which sounds a fine idea in theory. Jennings calls her book "more a lifestyle book than a financial planner". Readers will be able to test their knowledge with questions framed rather like those in a school maths exam: "Susan and Terry have three children. Susan doesn't work, but Terry does and they just manage. However, Terry has had an accident and will be in hospital for months. What benefit can they claim? (Answer: statutory sick pay for up to six months, maybe also employer's sick pay and, if desperate, income support and housing benefit and help with fares to the hospital through the Community Care scheme.)"

Jane Skinner, one of the prime movers behind the Women's Enterprise Development Agency (WEDA) at Aston University, has just published, together with Rennie Fritchie, another guide for women to add to the growing pile: *Working Choices: A Life-*

Planning Guide for Women Today (Dent, £4.50).

Holly Bishop, a bank manager seconded to act as advisor to and for WEDA, says: "Things may be getting easier, but there's still a long way to go. Women still tell us they can't get a bank loan without their husband's guarantee, or raise the capital for a new business without a male partner."

A recent survey by the Bradford and Bingley Building Society confirmed that several High Street branches refuse to deal with wives without also talking to their husbands, and its chief executive, Geoffrey Lister, warned of "a disturbing tendency among financial institutions to patronize women", although all of the big banks — including Lloyds and the Midland — denied such charges.

Perhaps there may be an even bigger, untapped, market for books telling banks how to treat women — rather than the other way around.

On the parallel bars



BARBARA AMIEL

American television star Phil Donahue is warming his audience up in the Palladium. "Why can't men let their feelings show?" he asks his audience, about two-thirds women. "Is it nature or is it nurture? I had a lady who told me every night she says to her husband 'I love you darling' and from the other side of the bed came the grunt 'ditto'." The audience claps. They know.

Donahue is wearing authentic original Levis and they are faded just right. As he holds the microphone on stage, getting ready to tape one of the five shows he is doing from the UK to be played daily on ITV the week of September 26, you can't help it, you become just one more of those women in that collective intake of breath watching him move. Then a lady from Leeds gets up and says it for everyone. "Where did you get those jeans?" she asks and Donahue does a little sway from side to side, his hand on hip. "My dear," he says. "You mean blue jeans are so American." That's it, of course. Donahue is so American. He's fit, just like his jeans, lean, tall and that big handsome potato-face has a little boy smile and aviator glasses. "He's just awesome," says the woman in front of me and collapses in her seat.

Donahue has been a talk show host for more than 20 years and is the father of a format that makes the audience the major part of each show. Each hour-long show features one topic, a few "expert" guests on the stage and Donahue roving among the studio audience, portable mike in hand. Today the topic is "Class 28: Britain's Anti-Gay Law". The hands are in the air waving furiously for his attention. A short-haired woman in pink corduroy jeans, a bunch of keys mounted on her right hip, makes her point. She is a teacher and has told her pupils that "I am a gay woman". The audience claps. The woman in front of her stands up, her red pony-tail shaking. "I wasn't told what this show was about," she says. "When I telephoned, I asked and they wouldn't tell me. Now I find I'm here, surrounded by... these people." Her voice tapers, a little unsure of herself. Donahue turns on her. "You mean surrounded by gay people?"

Before the end of the show, Ian McKellen and Michael Cashman (two of the guests sitting on the stage together with Sir Rhodes Boyson and the Rev. David Rushworth-Smith) will have declaimed about the end of democracy

and the persecution of homosexuals in Britain. There will have been at least two revelations from lesbians about how they informed their daughters of their predilection. "Did your daughters have a traumatic time when you told them?" asks a man in the audience after one such moment. Donahue breaks the three-second record for running from row X to row B in the Palladium stalls. "For me and for them it is normal and natural to be lesbian," replies the woman to tumultuous applause. The programme is getting increasingly vulgar, if possible, and brings to mind Donahue's favourite example of his show's frankness. "We had an interracial lesbian couple," he told the audience, "who had a child by inseminating the black partner with the sperm

'You better believe that caused some coronaries back in the office. But it went on'

of the white partner's brother. You better believe that caused some coronaries back in the office. But it went on."

Nothing much to say about all this, of course, except for the irritating need of Donahue and his staff to insist that this sort of programming is informative and, indeed, about "ideas". It's all done in the name of feminism, as well. "We proved women want more than soap operas and games shows on daytime television," Donahue explains. "Our success showed that women out there are well-informed and thinking."

I often wonder if a television producer would dare apply the same logic to a programme about a more tangible skill than the art of rationation. Would they invite a

group of people who are as unskilled, for example, in dancing or physics as the average studio audience is in gathering and analysing ideas, and then ask them to perform the gavotte or demonstrate the splitting of the atom?

This sort of television can be very funny, naturally. Put a group of dentists, or Mrs Thatcher for that matter, in the studio and ask them all to perform gymnastics on the parallel bars and the results may be most amusing. What the Donahue show does is rather like this. It invites people who have no special thinking ability to perform on the parallel bars of logic and reason. The audience is entertained at the expense of the audience.

In fact, this sort of programming doesn't prove anything at all positive about the taste of daytime programming viewers, only that interesting topics can by this format be reduced to a soap opera of ideas. Mind you, even if the audience were made up of clones of Lord Blake and Sir Isaiah Berlin, I shouldn't think a significantly higher level of discussion could be mounted so long as Donahue gave them little more than a 30-second interjection as, like a demented dodo, he ran for the next video clip.

"Is there anything about you that is not reflected in this show?" I asked Donahue. He couldn't think of anything. "Who inspires you?" I asked. The answer was American TV personalities Barbara Walters and Mike Wallace. It all fitted in with a list of Donahue programme topics that over the years has reflected every passing whim. Xaviera Hollander in 1976. Billy Graham in 1978. Jane Fonda in 1980 and *glasnost* in 1988.

Nothing wrong with being a media person, I thought, but it can infect one with the disease of terminal trendiness. It's not that current ideas can't be discussed, of course, but as a rule of thumb I would be inclined to say that any real exploration of ideas would by definition be untrendy. It is the attempt to find out what is flawed in received wisdom that may lead to knowledge.

At the end of his performance Donahue stood outside the theatre shaking hands with nearly a thousand people. Would Wogan do that, I thought. The ladies from Nottingham were besotted as they waited in the line-up. "He's such a nice man," they said. He is, indeed, and skilled and clever with his camera techniques. Which has nothing to do with the intrinsic silliness of his programme.

No smoke without fear

An article published in today's *Lancet* shows a direct physical link between cigarette smoking and cervical cancer. In theory, it should make absolutely no difference to women's smoking habits.

After all, the risks of dying from lung cancer are five times greater, yet women still smoke. They smoke despite the risks of heart disease, arterial disease (in which a limb might need to be amputated), and despite their much higher chances of stroke.

In practice, however, the *Lancet* report may give young women smokers the incentive they need to give up. Almost a third of women have the habit and they are slower to give it up than men. Despite all health education efforts, 27 per cent of girls aged 15 to 16 are smokers and their numbers are not declining.

The *Lancet* report might change this because, while the traditional diseases of smoking afflict older people and seem a lifetime away, cervical cancer is a disease with which young women are all too familiar. Although it claims "only" 2,200 lives in the UK annually, four million cervical smears are taken every year. In some parts of the country one in 10 of these will show signs of abnormality. Only a very small percentage of them will go on to develop into cervical cancer (although we now know that smoking makes this much more likely).

At London's Royal Northern Hospital, of 2,000 new patients seen with abnormal smears, only about 40 will have cervical cancer. Yet the effects on women who are called back for further investigation of what is a mere suspicion are devastating.

Albert Singer, a leading authority on cervical cancer, said four out of five women who came to his treatment centre at the Royal Northern showed signs of distress, usually psycho-sexual problems. "Many of the girls are in their early twenties. This is the first event which has shocked them to thinking about their own mortality," Singer estimates that approximately 80 per cent of the women coming to him for treatment are smokers.

Other studies have shown that, while the medical profession regards the treatment

Why young women have a new reason to stop smoking — and doctors to stop asking them about their sex lives



The Hollywood version: Marlene Dietrich in 1940, when the woman with a cigarette could be shown as a sultry seductress

of abnormal cells on the neck of the womb as precautionary, the women feel they have a disease striking right in the most intimate and sensitive parts of their bodies. They become frantic that they may lose their chance of motherhood. They lose interest in sex and they often become deeply depressed.

The most recent research on these reactions has been carried out by Professor Martin Vessey, of Oxford University, and Tina Posner, of the Policy Studies Institute. They interviewed 153 women about their feelings after hearing their smears were abnormal, after being investigated by medical microscope (colposcopy) and after surgical treatment. The women did not see

warning that they had the disease. The results, set out in a book to be published on Monday, show that doctors have underestimated the pain and discomfort of treatment and give too little information about the condition itself.

The authors write: "Well women, who may be symptomless, can be rendered passive patients, feeling helpless in the face of a threat to their well-being, and fearful of their body's 'contamination'... healing requires attention to the personal and social meaning of medical intervention as much to the physical state of the cervix. Reassurance, warmth and understanding from doctors and nurses and the patient's family and friends have all been shown to be important in providing

support for women as they go through the medical process."

A major complaint of the women interviewed was the way in which their privacy was invaded. The book recommends that clinic doors should be locked during examination and treatment and that observers should only be admitted with the patient's permission.

In the past there has been an element of "victim blaming" in medical attitudes to the disease. Doctors who carried out the *Lancet* research admitted that there had been a reluctance to believe in the biological links between smoking and cancer. Now it has been established that it is the physical effects of smoking which explain the higher incidence of cervical cancer in cigarette smokers, and not their risk-taking sexual lifestyle. Singer said that doctors had been "chauvinistic and presumptuous" in linking the disease to sexual promiscuity in women. Now it was known that the number of partners a husband or boyfriend had was just as relevant. One of the main triggers for cervical cancer is the genital wart virus, which is transmitted during sexual intercourse. However, this virus is extremely common, difficult to treat, and most people who carry it do not go on to develop cervical cancer.

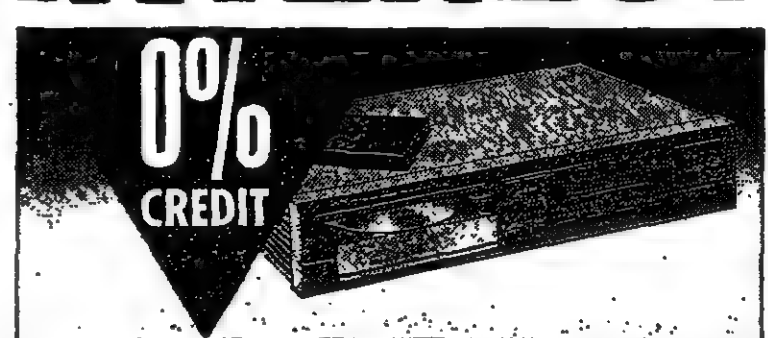
Posner and Vessey's book suggests that women should not be routinely asked about their sexual history. "In asking such questions doctors are using their authority to gain access to privileged information: this may add to the sense of invaded privacy."

Another recommendation is that women should be brought into making medical decisions about treatment so they feel they are taking some responsibility for their health. In the light of today's *Lancet* report, such a responsibility must include giving up smoking and getting her partner to give up as well: passive smoking is also thought to put women at risk of cervical cancer.

Ann Kent

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Prevention of Cervical Cancer: A Patient's View, by Tina Posner and Martin Vessey (The King's Fund Publishing, £6.95).

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Jane Rackham

BBC1

- 6.00 **Ceejazz AM**.
6.35 **Clark and McCulloch** in *Strap in a Jug* (by). 6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time** with John Stapleton and Pamela Armstrong. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. 8.35 **Regional news** and weather. 9.00 **News** and weather followed by **Geoffrey Smith's World of Flowers**. Geraniums and pelargoniums (r). 9.30 **Model World**. Model railways (r). 10.00 **News** and weather followed by **The Flintstones** (r). 10.25 **Play School** (r). 10.50 **Five to Eleven** with Cyril Cusack.
11.00 **News** and weather followed by **Arthur Negus Enjoys**. With Michael Smith, Arthur Negus enjoys drinks in the great dining room of Chatsworth House (r). 11.30 **Cooking With Clara**. Clara Connery prepares supper (r).
12.00 **News** and weather followed by **Dad's Army** (r). 12.30 **Cartoon**. *House of Tomorrow* (r). 12.55 **Regional news** and weather.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk. Weather. 1.30 **Neighbours**. Bill is caught between Paul's machinations and Jeremy's courting.
1.50 **Film: Bengazi** (1955, by) starring Richard Gere and Victor McLaglen. Drama about the search for hidden gold in the north African desert. Directed by John Brahm.
2.10 **Lifeline**. The latest charity news and an appeal by Sue Cook on behalf of the Handicapped Adventure Playground Association (r). 3.20 **Cartoon**. *Mother Goose on the Loose* (r). 3.25 **Go For It** Family fitness series (r).
3.50 **SuperTed** (r). 4.00 **Comics**. The first of a new series of 15 programmes answering all types of young people's questions.

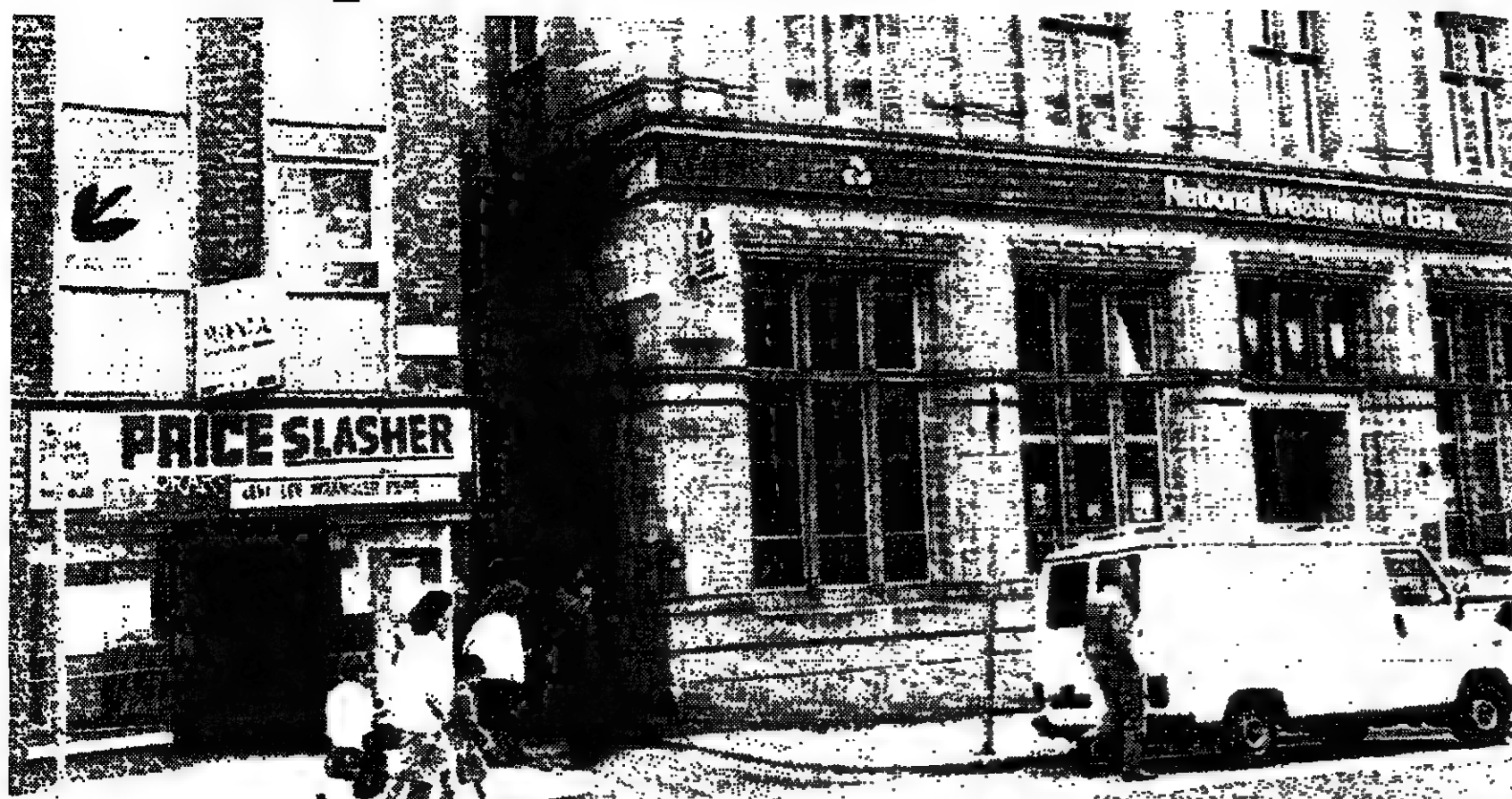
BBC2

- 6.55 **Open University: Science Foundation Course**. Ends at 7.30.
12.30 **Open University Showcase**. Behind the Annual Report 12.55 **Computer-Aided Engineering**. 1.20 **Map and Smith** (r). 1.35 **Weekend Outlook** (r). 1.40 **Ceejazz**.
2.00 **News** and weather followed by **Look, Stranger**. A profile of a sporting gunsmith (r).
2.25 **Racing from Newbury**. Julian Wilson introduces coverage of the 2.40, 3.10, 3.40 and 4.10 races. The commentators are Peter O'Sullivan, Jimmy Lintley and John Hamner. Includes news and weather at 2.50 and 3.30.
4.55 **Prismary Preview** (r). 4.50 **Holiday Outings**. Anne Gregg visits the Himalayas and Kathmandu and goes on an elephant safari (r).
6.00 **The Strange Affair of...** The Pled Piper of Hamelin (r).
6.30 **In the Footsteps of Bonnie Prince Charlie**. Jimmie Macgregor rescues Benbecula (r). (Ceejazz)

BBC1

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**Regional news**

Armed police surround bank raided by masked gunmen



Continued from page 1

street. She smashed the glass to attract the attention of passers-by, among them Mrs Lydia Boyle.

"I could see this woman at the window", Mrs Boyle said. "She had her back to it and I could see that her hands were tied. She threw something through the window and it smashed and then she started to shout."

Police were called and the bank was immediately cordoned off with up to 30 armed officers training their weapons on the windows and doors.

A trained police hostage negotiator was brought in, but all attempts to contact the robbers by telephone and loudspeaker failed. Unknown

to the police, the gang had already fled.

Finally, at about noon, an assault team broke into the bank through a rear door and found the staff, shocked but unharmed, in the vault.

Throughout yesterday police interviewed Mr Ball, his family and the 61 staff members to try to build up a detailed picture of the robbers.

However, the gang members were never seen without their masks and apparently spoke little.

Mr Ball was appointed manager of the branch earlier this year, and has been with National Westminster since 1960.

The bank offered a

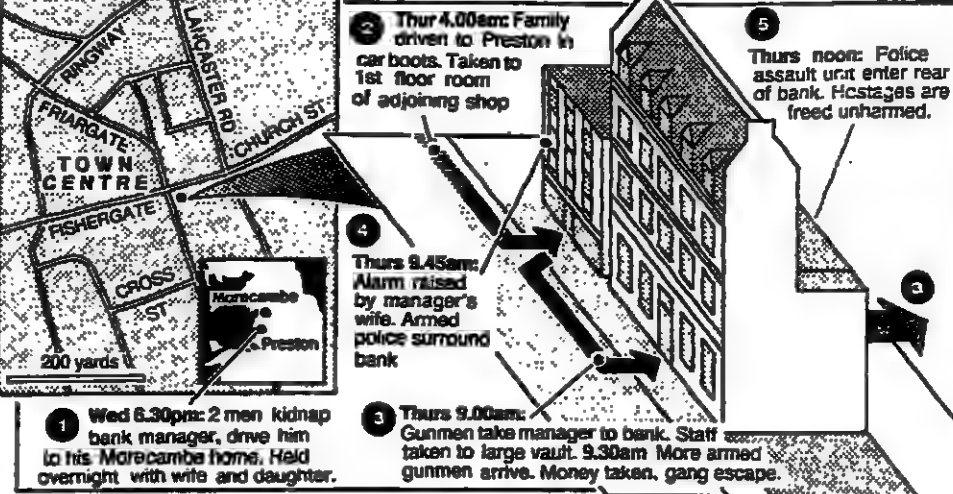
"substantial" reward yesterday for information leading to the arrest of the robbers.

Mr Colin Williams, a spokesman for the National Westminster, said: "We are very relieved that in this case our staff, Mr Ball and his family have come through this terrible ordeal apparently unharmed."

Asked about security advice given to bank staff about avoiding the risk of kidnapping as part of a robbery, he said: "We have a security system and obviously staff are trained, but we don't go public on what we do for obvious reasons."

"Our number one priority in these matters is that human lives come first."

While Mr Roger Ball was taken to his bank (above) by the gang, Mrs Ball broke the window of the room over the empty shop where she was held to alert passers-by and armed police then surrounded the building (above right). The Balls had been held captive in their house at Morecambe overnight (right).



SAS team denies made up evidence

Continued from page 1

chuckle, almost a sneer from Mr McGorry.

The lawyer also suggested that it was more than coincidence that the four soldiers who had fired their weapons at the IRA team had insisted that the terrorists were making movements to indicate they were about to detonate a remote control bomb.

Mr McGorry asked Soldier D: "Has somebody told you and rehearsed you again and again to say that?" The SAS man replied: "I am saying that because that was the threat, that was going through my mind at the time."

Mr McGorry also asked the soldier several times if they had shot Savage through the head while he lay on the ground and even put their feet on his chest as the final bullet struck home.

"It would have been sheer murder if that happened", Mr McGorry said. "That is not the fact that happened on the day", Soldier D replied.

"Did you totally lose control of yourself that day?" Mr McGorry asked.

"I certainly did not", Mr McGorry asked Soldier C: "Have you heard the expression overkill?"

"It was not an overkill," replied Soldier C.

After the soldiers had completed their evidence, the inquest heard from members of the security services involved in the surveillance operation in Gibraltar last March, including their leader, referred to as Mr M.

He said that he had seen the shootings of Farrell, the leader of the IRA gang, and confirmed the evidence of the two soldiers who shot her that she did not have her hands in the air as if to surrender.

Mr M said however that he was "disappointed" that special arrangements were not made on the frontier to check cars arriving from Spain on the day of the shootings as that might have helped identify Savage, who drove in undetected in a white Renault

US battens down as Gilbert sweeps on

Continued from page 1

smashed and air conditioners were ripped off the walls. Light aircraft were destroyed on the runway at Montego Bay, a favourite holiday resort, and a DC3 airliner was blown 3,000 feet by winds gusting up to 200mph.

One returning tourist said houses and crops were flattened, boats in the harbour

were sunk and shanties wrecked.

The hurricane brought a nightmare ending to their honeymoon for Mr Simon Kershaw and his wife of seven days, Jane. They were playing dominoes outside their holiday hotel on Monday evening when the violent winds tore off the roof.

"It was very frightening. Everything went black and

you could only see about 300 yards", Simon, a sales manager from Bradford, said.

With the threat of a breakdown in law and order, a curfew has been imposed on some parts of the capital, Kingston, and three looters have been shot by the security forces.

The Jamaican High Commission in London said that the situation was "extremely

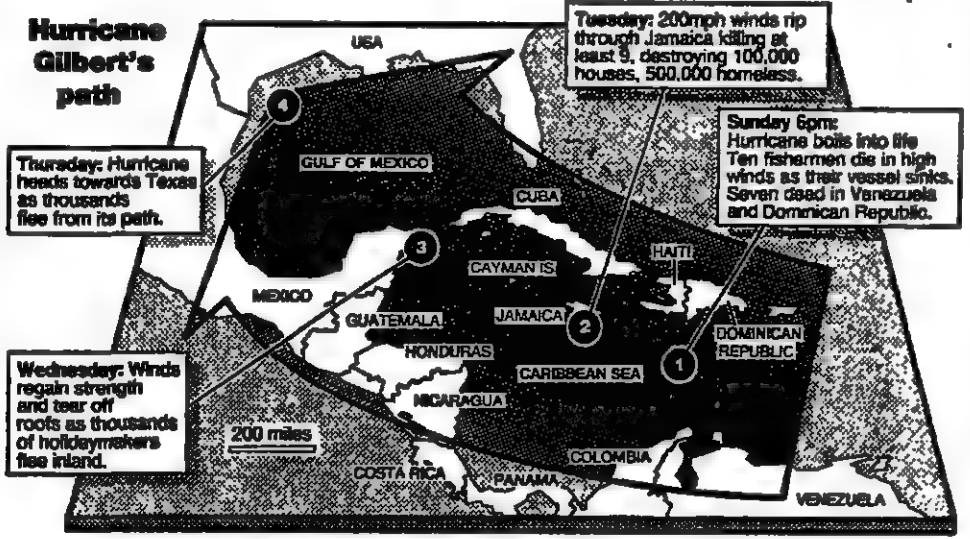
serious" with so many thousands without water or shelter, food scarce and many roads blocked.

Britain has already announced £550,000 worth of aid for Jamaica, including £50,000 in urgent medical supplies and tin food provided by the High Commission in the island.

The Red Cross appealed yesterday for more than £2 million to help in feeding the victims and the St John Ambulance, which has sent an ambulance, is appealing for cash to help its efforts.

Only two Category 5 hurricanes have hit the United States since records were first kept. The designation refers to storms with winds of more than 155mph and waves surging to 18ft above normal levels.

The first was the 1935 storm that killed 408 people in Florida and the second was Hurricane Camille which tore through the Mississippi coastal area killing 256 people in 1969. No storm of that magnitude has ever hit an urban area.



Most postmen are clearing backlog

Continued from page 1

tion Workers executive, Mr Alan Tiffin, its general secretary, was confident that his union would make the national agreement stick but said that talk of imposing settlements in areas still on strike "would be a recipe for chaos".

Striking workers and Post Office management in Glasgow yesterday agreed a peace formula and last night, the task of clearing the city's mountain of undelivered mail had begun.

The local postmaster, Mr Bob McCall, said peace was achieved after a "re-reading" of the national agreement.

Glasgow was the last main office in Scotland to settle: unions insisted three hours overtime were needed to clear the backlog, while the management said only two hours were needed, plus the use of casual labour.

The leaders of striking postmen in Liverpool were still negotiating with management last night. Mr Billy Hayes, UCU branch secretary, said

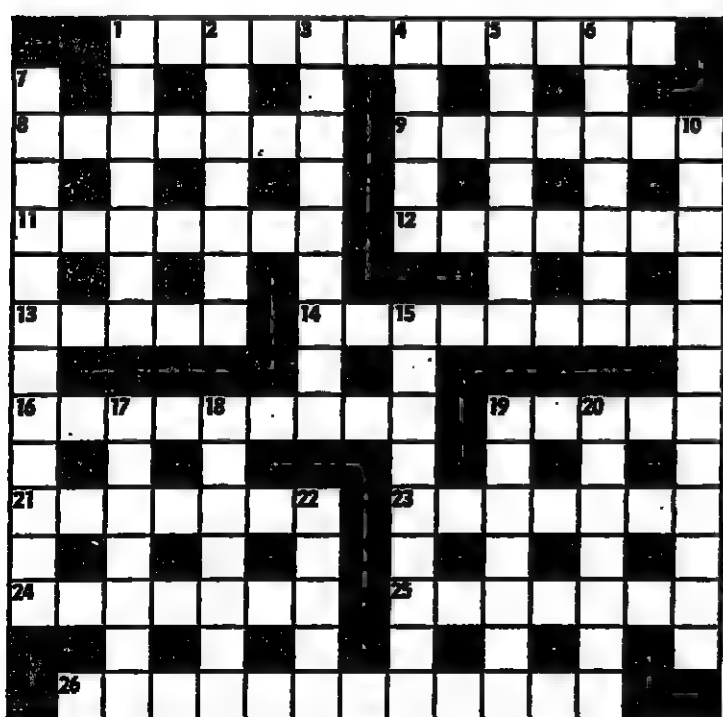
his men would stay out until they are certain no temporary staff will be used.

Talks in Hull broke down again yesterday. The union refuses to accept the one-delivery-a-day method of clearing the backlog.

They want two deliveries despite the intervention of a member of their national executive in the discussions. Hull's head postmaster, Mr John Riley, said "We have offered a solution which is in keeping with the national agreement."

By last night, there were 69 sorting offices across the country back at work out of a total of 82. Those back at work included: Aberdeen, Birmingham, Central London, Carlisle, Darlington, Edinburgh, Ipswich, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield, Swansea, Watford, Swindon, Glasgow. Offices still out: Bolton, Cardiff, Coventry, Crewe, Croydon, Hull, Liverpool, Manchester, Newport, Southend, York.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,776



- ACROSS**
- Student given job - to put things in order around University (4-8).
 - Hold forth about gymnastics training to produce an effect (7).
 - Acquire too many weapons in such a delivery? (7).
 - Boy nursing restless desire for drums (7).
 - Tailless red bird has become wild (7).
 - 7 hit high return round the leg side (5).
 - Swing seen as harmful in East Coast resort (9).
 - Chants may need revision for Chichester, say (9).
 - Scolding woman, endlessly cunning (5).
 - Concerning public relations work in Laos? Not the capital (7).
 - Mollusc discovered by Jack without assistance (7).
 - Amount gained, it's said, by a certain person (7).
 - Like a blue or white flower (7).
 - Bloomer about the army being detailed to shift this weapon (5-7).
- DOWN**
- To which southerners may travel very quickly north (7).
 - Beauties have no right to cause accidents (7).
 - Bolt-hole for inexperienced Othello when upset (5-8).
 - The affair of a second Chaldean city (5).
 - Of varying quality, unlike Orwell's farm animals (7).
 - Air passage for ambassador trapped when a vehicle overturns (7).
 - Collections of notes hidden in Nero's day, misplaced for ages (7-5).
 - Mimic girl at sea, initially cack-handed with this tool (6-5).
 - Study French writer on river vessel (9).
 - Colour of animal carrying sun god (7).
 - Opportunity to support strike in the bar (7).
 - Bird, or butterfly without tail (7).
 - Duty list for keeper of duck and cockle (7).
 - Downfall of a general, in a way? (5).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- CENAL**
- To do with lunch
 - Pertaining to drains
 - The north side of the choir
- GAMBRINOUS**
- Having gables
 - Knock-kneed
 - Full of beer
- TATER**
- A gleaner of roots
 - A home run
 - A fish-and-chip shop
- SKALENIAN**
- A type of autoimmune
 - An Arian heretic
 - Moony

Answers on page 20, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,775

ACROSS: 1. JACQUES; 2. HILL; 3. MOLLUSC; 4. GAIN; 5. FLOWER; 6. BLOOMER; 7. DUTY; 8. DOWNFALL; 9. CHICHESTER; 10. LAOS; 11. JACK; 12. MOLLUSC; 13. GAIN; 14. FLOWER; 15. BLOOMER; 16. DUTY; 17. DOWNFALL; 18. CHICHESTER; 19. LAOS; 20. JACK; 21. MOLLUSC; 22. GAIN; 23. FLOWER; 24. BLOOMER; 25. DUTY; 26. DOWNFALL.

WEATHER

Most of Britain will be dry although cool in a north-western wind. Cloud amounts will be variable, with most areas seeing the sun at some time during the day. Places with high ground to the north, such as much of south-west England, could have prolonged sunshine. North-west Scotland will have occasional rain or drizzle. Outlook: dry and a little warmer with sunny spells and light winds.

ABROAD

Monday: b=thunder; d=drizzle; f=fog; s=sun; st=st-easter; sm=snow; l=light; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	23/73	8/16	Algeria	17/63	3/16
Amman	23/73	8/16	Amman	17/63	3/16
Algiers	23/73	8/16	Algiers	17/63	3/16
Antwerp	23/73	8/16	Antwerp	17/63	3/16
Athens	23/73	8/16	Athens	17/63	3/16
Bahia	23/73	8/16	Bahia	17/63	3/16
Batavia	23/73	8/16	Batavia	17/63	3/16
Bombay	23/73	8/16	Bombay	17/63	3/16
Buenos Aires	23/73	8/16	Buenos Aires	17/63	3/16
Calcutta	23/73	8/16	Calcutta	17/63	3/16
Canton	23/73	8/16	Canton	17/63	3/16
Cebu	23/73	8/16	Cebu	17/63	3/16
Colon	23/73	8/16	Colon	17/63	3/16
Hankow	23/73	8/16	Hankow	17/63	3/16
Hong Kong	23/73	8/16	Hong Kong	17/63	3/16
Kobe	23/73	8/16	Kobe	17/63	3/16
London	23/73	8/16	London	17/63	3/16
Lyons	23/73	8/16	Lyons	17/63	3/16
Manila	23/73	8/16	Manila	17/63	3/16
Medan	23/73	8/16	Medan	17/63	3/16
Osaka	23/73	8/16	Osaka	17/63	3/16
Paris	23/73	8/16	Paris	17/63	3/16
Rangoon	23/73	8/16	Rangoon	17/63	3/16
San Francisco	23/73	8/16	San Francisco	17/63	3/16
Singapore	23/73	8/16	Singapore	17/63	3/16
Sourabaya	23/73	8/16	Sourabaya	17/63	3/16
Tokyo	23/73	8/16	Tokyo	17/63	3/16
Yokohama	23/73	8/16	Yokohama	17/63	3/16

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sea	Wind	Temp	Cloud
Scotland	2.8	14	57	cloudy
London	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Cardiff	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Belfast	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Manchester	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Edinburgh	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Glasgow	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Newcastle	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Liverpool	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Birmingham	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Nottingham	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Sheffield	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Leeds	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Manchester	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Edinburgh	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Glasgow	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Newcastle	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Liverpool	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Birmingham	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Nottingham	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Sheffield	2.8	14	57	cloudy
Leeds	2.8	14	57	cloudy

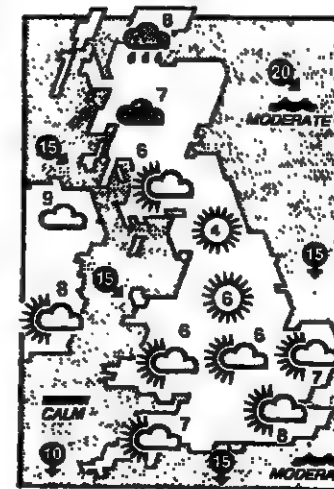
HIGH TIDES

	AM	PM	MT
London	5.25	6.8	6.7
Cardiff	5.25	6.8	6.7
Belfast	5.25	6.8	6.7
Manchester	5.25	6.8	6.7
Edinburgh	5.25	6.8	6.7
Glasgow	5.25	6.8	6.7
Newcastle	5.25	6.8	6.7
Liverpool	5.25	6.8	6.7
Birmingham	5.25	6.8	6.7
Nottingham	5.25	6.8	6.7
Sheffield	5.25	6.8	6.7
Leeds	5.25	6.8	6.7
Manchester	5.25	6.8	6.7
Edinburgh	5.25	6.8	6.7
Glasgow	5.25	6.8	6.7
Newcastle	5.25	6.8	6.7
Liverpool	5.25	6.8	6.7
Birmingham	5.25	6.8	6.7
Nottingham	5.25	6.8	6.7
Sheffield	5.25	6.8	6.7
Leeds	5.25	6.8	6.7

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.19	2.19
Canada	0.63	0.63
Denmark	2.19	2.19
France	7.77	7.77
Germany	1.18	1.18
Italy	2.19	2.19
Japan	240.00	240.00
Netherlands	2.19	2.19
Portugal	2.19	2.19
Spain	2.19	2.19
Sweden	11.31	11.31
Switzerland	2.19	2.19
USA	1.75	1.75
Yugoslavia	5700.00	5700.00

AM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 15C (61F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Humidity: 6 pm, 87 per cent. Rain: 5 am to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 6 am to 6 pm, 3.8 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1031.5 millibars, steady 1,000 millibars.

TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be lifted at the following times today: 12.45pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 7.43 pm to 6.09 am
Bristol 7.52 pm to 6.19 am
Edinburgh 7.57 pm to 6.19 am
Manchester 7.55 pm to 6.16 am
Preston 7.55 pm to 6.31 am

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 15C (61F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Humidity: 6 pm, 87 per cent. Rain: 5 am to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 6 am to 6 pm, 3.8 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1031.5 millibars, steady 1,000 millibars.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Isles of Scilly, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Exeter, 11C (52F). Highest night temp: Exeter, 11C (52F); lowest night temp: Exeter, 11C (52F).

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloud; l, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

NOON TODAY

London 7.43 pm to 6.09 am
Bristol 7.52 pm to 6.19 am
Edinburgh 7.57 pm to 6.19 am
Manchester 7.55 pm to 6.16 am
Preston 7.55 pm to 6.31 am

Information supplied by Met Office

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MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1422.0 (+5.5)	US dollar 1.8785 (+0.0020)
FT-SE 100 1769.3 (+4.2)	W German mark 3.1480 (+0.0012)
USM (Datastream) 159.78 (+0.48)	Trade-weighted 75.4 (same)

THE TIMES

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 16 1988

PART 2

BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-32
ROLLS-ROYCE 33-37
SPORT 42-46Executive Editor
David Brewerton

W German firm buys Lansing

Linde, the West German engineering group, has reached a binding agreement to buy Britain's leading fork-lift truck maker, Lansing Bagnall, from Sir Emmanuel Kaye's Kaye Organisation for an undisclosed sum.

The deal, subject to approval from British and West German anti-trust authorities, should be completed by the end of this year.

The publicly-quoted Linde, one of world leaders in industrial trucks, will thereby acquire one of its most important European competitors. Lansing, with plants in Britain, France and West Germany had an annual turnover of £235 million last year.

The sale of the privately-owned Lansing, which employs 5,100 workers, includes the main operating plant at Basingstoke, a manufacturing plant at Blackwood in Wales, Continental plants and marketing companies.

Thorntons' lift

Thorntons, the chocolate company, which came to the market in May, reported a 22 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £7.54 million for the year to May 28. Turnover was up 13 per cent to £46.27 million. Earnings per share went up 29.6 per cent to 8.67p.

Oil prices

Spot oil prices fell 60 cents a barrel to \$13.75, after reports that Iraq would not cut its oil output.

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2089.75 (-0.89)*
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	Closed
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2474.08 (-7.49)
Amsterdam	Genl	2702.2 (+2.0)
Sydney	AO	1586.1 (+18.7)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	1538.4 (+4.2)
Buenos Aires	General	5068.3 (+32.7)
Paris	Par CAC	392.2 (same)
Zurich	S&K Genl	467.4 (+1.4)
London	FT-A All-Share	916.63 (+2.17)
	FT-100	1001.80 (+3.10)
	FT Gold Mines	175.4 (-0.2)
	FT Fixed Interest	95.63 (+0.14)
	FT Govt Secs	66.81 (-0.08)
Recent Issues		Page 30
Closing prices		Page 31

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Morland	845p (+17p)
Whitbread 'B'	830p (+50p)
Kleinwort Benson	347 1/2p (+10p)
Standard Chart	516 1/2p (+28p)
Cadbury-Schweppes	358p (+12 1/2p)
Pleasurama	223 1/2p (+25p)
Bradford	670p (+10p)
Estates & Agency	255p (+10p)
Jerrym	300p (+50p)
McKay Securities	195p (+10p)
Calor Group	375 1/2p (+13p)
Enterprise	689p (+10p)
Ranger	350p (+13p)
Ultramar	231 1/2p (+14p)
Int Thomson	670p (+25p)
Assoc Br Ports	509p (+15p)
Atwoods	272 1/2p (+13p)

FALLS:	
London Intl	188 1/2p (-20 1/2p)
Land Securities	842 1/2p (-11p)
Stylo	290p (-10p)
Closing prices	
Bergins	1972p

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base	12%
3-month interbank	12 1/2%-12 3/4%
3-month eligible bills	11 1/4%-11 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds	8 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	7.17-7.18%
30-year bonds	10 1/4%-10 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: \$1.8785	£: \$1.8785
DM: 3.1480	DM: 3.1480
FF: 166.637	FF: 166.637
FF: 166.637	FF: 166.637
Yen: 224.42	Yen: 224.42
Index: 75.4	Index: 75.4
ECU: 20.65576	SDR: 20.78326

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$421.50 pm \$418.85	
\$417.50-418.00 (\$248.75-249.25)	
New York:	
Comex \$417.30-417.80	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct), pm \$13.75 (\$14.20)	
* Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES

STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Stockwatch gives instant access to more than 10,000 share, unit trust and bond prices. The information you require is on the following telephone numbers:

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● Calls charged at 5p for 8 seconds peak and 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

Rolls-Royce flies in with £121 million in cash



Three views of the figures... Sir Francis Tombs reporting a Rolls-Royce order book worth £3.4 billion yesterday (Photographs: Peter Trievnor)

Earnings rise fuels inflation worries

By Richard Thomson and David Smith

An unexpected rise in underlying average earnings threw a shadow over financial markets yesterday and prompted fears of an acceleration in inflation. Earnings rose by an annual rate of 9 per cent to July, the highest level for six years.

The figure for June was revised upwards to 8.75 per cent but before that earnings growth had been steady at 8.5 per cent since last December. The movement took the City by surprise and fuelled concern that wage settlements are getting out of hand.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, said some of the increase was the result of overtime and bonus payments, but he gave a warning that excessive pay settlements would harm job prospects.

Unemployment fell for the 25th month in succession, with a drop of 45,400 last month to give a total of 2.27 million people without jobs.

Demand for City office space falls

Demand for office space in the City of London fell by 6 per cent last year - less than had been feared - according to the latest annual survey by Savills, the commercial surveyors.

But the report says that landlords are now coming under increasing pressure to offer tenants greater inducements, "through lower rents, long rent-free periods, and higher contributions towards fitting-out work."

The survey says that developments in the City and Docklands will increase the amount of available office accommodation by 20 million sq ft, to 85 million sq ft, by the end of 1991.

However, Charles Sanderson, Savills' City director, says: "Provided the price is right, it is unlikely there will be any oversupply."

He adds: "Demand from traditional City users will be supplemented by demand from international companies choosing London as their European headquarters, and West End-based occupiers who will be attracted by the softer terms being offered in the City and Docklands."

Comment, page 25

The seasonally adjusted adult unemployment rate for August was 8 per cent. Including school-leavers, unemployment dropped by 35,528 to 2.29 million.

Mr Fowler said that over the past year unemployment

Leading article

15

had been falling faster in Britain than in any other industrialized country. The rate was now below that of most other European countries, he added.

Mr Bill Martin, economist for Phillips & Drew, said: "The rise in average earnings is huge and horrible and comes just at the start of the next pay round. The economy is now way off track and there is a definite danger of a wage-price spiral beginning."

The increase in average earnings growth and the Chancellor's warning on Wednesday about today's inflation figures has led City analysts to revise up their inflation forecasts, with some now expecting a rate of 7 per cent in the new year.

Unit wage costs rose by 1.1 per cent for the three months to July compared with the same period last year.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, said the rise was restrained by a 7.25 per cent increase in productivity over the year to July. The rise in unit wage costs compares with an increase of 2.2 per cent in the three months to the end of June.

The gilt market fell on the earnings news and dropped further after Bank of England figures suggesting that notes and coins in circulation this month are running at a level 10 per cent above a year ago.

The current account deficit in the second quarter was £2.91 billion, up from £2.84 billion in the first quarter. The visible trade deficit widened from £3.95 billion to £4.43 billion, while the balance on services slipped from £931 million to £907 million.

The overall invisibles balance improved from £1.11 billion to £1.52 billion, however, as a result of improved earnings on interest, profits and dividends and a reduction in net transfers.

The capital account data suggests that there was a net outflow of long-term portfolio investment in the second quarter, more than offset by a large inflow of short-term funds.

Separate figures from the Department of Trade and Industry confirmed the strength of the investment boom. Capital expenditure by industry in the second quarter showed a real increase of 7 per cent on the previous quarter and was up by 14 per cent on a year earlier.

The figures, which normally contain a substantial revision to initial estimates of earnings on invisibles, show that as well as the widening deficit on visible trade, the surplus on trade in services is declining.

have no intention of doing that," he said.

The interim profits surge was achieved on turnover up 27 per cent to £2.6 billion. ACI International, the Australian industrial group acquired last March by the BTR Nylex subsidiary, contributed £239 million in sales and £38 million in turnover.

Earnings per share rose 26 per cent to 13.5p, and the dividend was raised 26 per cent to 5.5p net. Shareholders have the option of taking the dividend in the form of shares.

Temps, page 24

Profits on course at £63m

By David Young

Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine manufacturer, yesterday reported a slight increase in profits, a healthy bank balance and an order book worth £3.4 billion.

Sir Francis Tombs, the chairman of Rolls-Royce said: "Opportunities for Rolls-Royce are plentiful and our underlying performance is very satisfactory."

"We continue our determined actions to increase our cost competitiveness by a wide range of measures, of which the workforce reduction this year is an important example."

In the first half of this year staff cuts have cost the company £14 million compared with £2 million in 1987, while spending on research and development in the first half of this year was reduced to £77 million from £84 million in the same period last year. An interim dividend of 2.1p has been declared compared with 1.75p last year.

First-half profits this year were £63 million, against £60 million last year, after receiving interest payments of £6 million as opposed to paying interest charges of £8 million in the same period a year ago. The group has a cash balance of £121 million.

In the past six months Rolls-Royce has won orders to power 50 Boeing 757 aircraft for American Airlines, with options to power 50 more, and a decision has been made to proceed with the development of the European Fighter Aircraft, which it will play a key role in powering. Its V2500 engine has also been certified on schedule.

Temps, page 24

Racal places £1.85bn tag on Vodafone

By John Bell, City Editor

Racal is putting a price tag of up to £1.85 billion on its Vodafone cellular telephone operations due to be launched on the Stock Market in mid-October.

The company has lowered its sights from the earlier £2 billion target in the light of uncertain stock market conditions but is convinced the issue will be a success. Vodafone's market value will make it the largest flotation outside the government privatization programme.

Sir Ernest Harrison, Racal Electronics chairman, said the flotation of Vodafone and the telecommunications division was "the greatest event in the history of the company."

Launching the pathfinder prospectus for the flotation of Racal Telecom, he said from the time Racal was granted one of the two cellular licences by the Government five-and-a-half years ago "we were certain this was the greatest business opportunity we had ever experienced."

Racal Electronics is selling 20 per cent of the telecommunications division. Of this, 75 per cent of the shares will go on a preferential basis to existing Racal shareholders on the basis of one for every 4 1/2 shares already held.

The remaining 25 per cent of the shares being sold will go to international investors in Europe and the US. There will also be a guaranteed 14 million shares offered to the public.

Since it was launched, Vodafone has been a spectacular success and is now the

leading cellular phone company capturing a 55 per cent share of the market. The balance is held by Cellnet, the rival British Telecom consortium.

From losses of £1.8 million in 1984, Vodafone broke into the black in the year to March 1987 and produced profits of £50.2 million last year.

Pro forma profits for the current year to March 1989 are forecast to reach £77 million.

The offer price will not be fixed until closer to flotation but is expected to be in the range 155p to 185p per share, implying a stiff rating of between 28 and 33 times p/e per share.

A key factor in the flotation will be the reception in the US.

Comment, page 25

where Mr Gerry Whent, Racal Telecom's chief executive, plans investor meetings during the next four weeks.

The valuation of the cellular activities is high by the standards of the British stock market, and closer to prices paid for US cellular stocks. Mr Don Opatry managing director of Goldman Sachs International Corp, which is advising Racal, said: "We anticipate widespread interest from overseas and from the United States and Europe in particular."

Racal shares gained 9 1/2p to 301p on news of the pathfinder prospectus which indicates a valuation towards the lower end of the company's expectations.

RTZ stays silent on Lasmo plans

By Colin Campbell

RTZ Corporation yesterday left the market guessing over its intentions towards its 29 per cent stake in Lasmo, the independent oil company.

Sir Alistair Frame, RTZ chairman, and Mr Derek Birkin, chief executive, said it would be premature for RTZ to comment on the future of its holding in Lasmo or on Lasmo's proposals to sell its own 25 per cent stake in Enterprise Oil.

The RTZ holding is worth £289 million based on Lasmo's share price of 569p yesterday.

RTZ unveiled a 77 per cent interim attributable profit leap to £199 million, which followed significantly higher metal prices and continuing industrial growth.

Sir Alistair said economic activity throughout the world

continued generally firm, particularly in countries of significance to RTZ, and he viewed the future with confidence.

He added that RTZ was in excellent health, although world economic growth could be dampened by recent rises in interest rates, and there was some concern about the potential adverse effect of any additional protectionist measures on world trade.

The interim dividend rose from 3.2p to 4.25p a share. RTZ shares rose from 415p to 428p yesterday.

Profits from metals rose from £37 million to £97 million, those of speciality minerals from £48 million to £53 million, and related industries' profits from £41 million to £61 million.

Temps, page 24

BTR unveils 31% half-time rise and free warrant plan

By Carol Ferguson

BTR, the fast-growing industrial conglomerate, lifted pre-tax profits 31 per cent in the first half of 1988 to £368 million, and then unveiled plans to issue free warrants to its shareholders.

The warrants, which will give shareholders the right to subscribe to new BTR shares in 1992 and 1993 at 285p a share, will be issued in the ratio of one warrant for every 33 shares held. The shares rose 10p today to 283p.

Mr John Cahill, the chief executive, said BTR was in "uncharted waters", although

warrants were fairly common in the US and Japan. "The object is to give the shareholders the opportunity to participate in BTR's future growth through a term option exercisable in future years, and further issues will be considered", he said.

He said BTR would not use the warrants as sweeteners in cash bids while its own share price was too depressed to make a share offer unattractive.

"To use warrants for this purpose would dilute our shareholders' interest and we

have no intention of doing that," he said.

The interim profits surge was achieved on turnover up 27 per cent to £2.6 billion. ACI International, the Australian industrial group acquired last March by the BTR Nylex subsidiary, contributed £239 million in sales and £38 million in turnover.

Earnings per share rose 26 per cent to 13.5p, and the dividend was raised 26 per cent to 5.5p net. Shareholders have the option of taking the dividend in the form of shares.

Temps, page 24

US group may buy hotel chain

By Cliff Feltham

Grand Metropolitan, the food and drinks group, is expected to make an early announcement concerning the successful bidder for its luxury chain of Inter-Continental Hotels which is likely to raise about £1.5 billion.

Last night there was speculation that VMS Realty, the Chicago leisure and property group, had won the auction. The deadline for the bids

closed yesterday. However, a spokesman for Grand Metropolitan said: "There has been a great deal of interest in the sale. We now have to evaluate the offers. It could be that three or four may be in the same price bracket so we would have to talk to the bidders. There are all sorts of financial and tax matters involved."

Mr Allen Sheppard, the Grand Metropolitan chairman put the 100 hotel busi-

ness - more than 37,000 rooms - up for sale last month indicating he expected to raise at least £1.5 billion.

A number of British hotel chains, including Trusthouse Forte and Mount Charlotte, have been suggested as possible buyers, but the sheer size of the deal suggests that a consortium bid is most likely.

On the stock market, prospects of Grand Metropolitan's impending windfall pushed the shares up 8p to 485p.

Effect on consumers of £75m travel merger to be examined

Thomson sees MMC on the Horizon

By Rosemary Uasworth
Retail Affairs Correspondent

The £75 million purchase of Horizon Travel by Thomson Travel has been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to see what effect the merger of the two biggest holiday companies will have on the consumer.

The reference by the Office of Fair Trading will consider the market for foreign inclusive holidays by air and will be completed within three months. The takeover, announced last month, was always a likely candidate for investigation as the value of the deal was in excess of the £30 million which allows the OFT to intervene.

Independent travel trade estimates were that the combined group would have 40 per cent - or 4,500 customers - of the package holiday market, with Mr Harry Goodman's International Leisure Group taking 20 per cent and Redwing 5

per cent. But Thomson put forward the case that, combined with Horizon, it held only a 22.9 per cent stake if independently arranged holidays were included in the total. On this basis ILG has 10.4 per cent of the market and Redwing 2.6 per cent.

The fear over the union of the two groups, which would also create the world's biggest charter airline with the merger of Orion and Britannia, was that prices would be even more tightly controlled, with the possibility of sharp increases next year for holiday-makers.

Horizon's vendor, Bass, the brewer, is not a victim of the reference as it sold the group unconditionally and has already received the £75 million consideration.

Mr Roger Davies, the chairman of Thomson Travel, said yesterday: "Obviously we would have preferred not to have a reference, but justice must be seen to be done. We are confident that, given

the opportunity for an investigation, we will demonstrate that the merger is in no way against the consumer's interest."

He added that the group would show that whatever share of the travel market a company had, it could not dominate the market.

"Profits could be made, or lost, with any size of company - there is no magic economy of scale", he said.

Horizon was making a loss when it was sold by Bass, which had purchased the group just a year before, for £100 million.

The most extreme action the MMC could take, if it decided the merger was against the public interest, would be to order International Thomson Organisation, the holding company, to sell the tour-operating division, or close it. However, City analysts thought this was unlikely.

International Thomson shares rose 25p, to 670p, yesterday.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Blue Arrow expands with Roco purchase

Blue Arrow, the world's biggest employment agency, is paying an initial £1.6 million for Roco, a recruitment bureau specializing in the supply of temporary heavy goods vehicle drivers, Mr David Scanlan, Roco's chairman and the vendor, is taking £1 million cash and the rest in new shares.

There is a further deferred consideration, depending on the current year's profits to May 31, again in cash and shares. Mr Scanlan has entered into a two-year service contract. The acquisition will enlarge Blue Arrow's Extrastaff operation, which also supplies temporary HGV drivers.

SD-Scicon tops £4m

SD-Scicon, the software house formed by the merger of Systems Designers and Scicon, the former BP subsidiary, lifted pre-tax profit from £3.18 million to £4.34 million in the six months to end-June. Fully diluted earnings per share were lower at 1.67p, from 1.70p. The interim dividend rose from 0.25p to 0.275p.

Westpool up 44% to £4m

Westpool Investment Trust, the investment holding company, reported a 44.5 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £4.1 million for the year to end-April. Gross income rose 35 per cent to £4.45 million. Earnings per share rose from 2.09p to 2.95p. A final dividend of 1.45p per share makes a total of 1.8p (1.7p).

Talbox buys US firm

Talbox Group, the aerosol maker, is paying \$12.5 million (£7.44 million) for Victoreen, a manufacturer of instruments and accessories for detecting radiation, based in Ohio and Mexico. The company has also given a warning that after tax and extraordinary items it will lose £650,000 for the year to end-July. The purchase will be funded by the issue of 19.9 million new shares at 22p each, which have been conditionally placed, with the balance in cash. The company made \$1.23 million pre-tax in the 53 weeks to January 3.

Talbox said its profits before tax and extraordinary items were expected to be at least £1 million in the last financial year, but extraordinary items would amount to £1.65 million. The previous year it lost £1.28 million. Its shares fell 2.5p to 21p.

Wyevale in cash call

Wyevale Garden Centres is priming its guns for further expansion with a £3.6 million issue of convertible preference shares, to be offered to existing shareholders on the basis of three for every five ordinary shares already held. Pending investment, the proceeds will be used to repay borrowings or be placed on deposit.

Thorpac suspended

Shares in Thorpac Group, the cookware and packaging producer, were suspended on the USM at 36p. The company has made three acquisitions this summer and a spokesman said time was needed to comply with Stock Exchange requirements relating to the purchases. Dealing is expected to start again after about a week.

TEMPUS

Warrants add a gloss to BTR

Warrants are not particularly well understood by analysts, and many investors fight shy of them. They are often used as a sweetener in preference or debt issues, but the dilutive effect of this type of issue leaves the ordinary shareholder with the uneasy feeling that he is being robbed somehow.

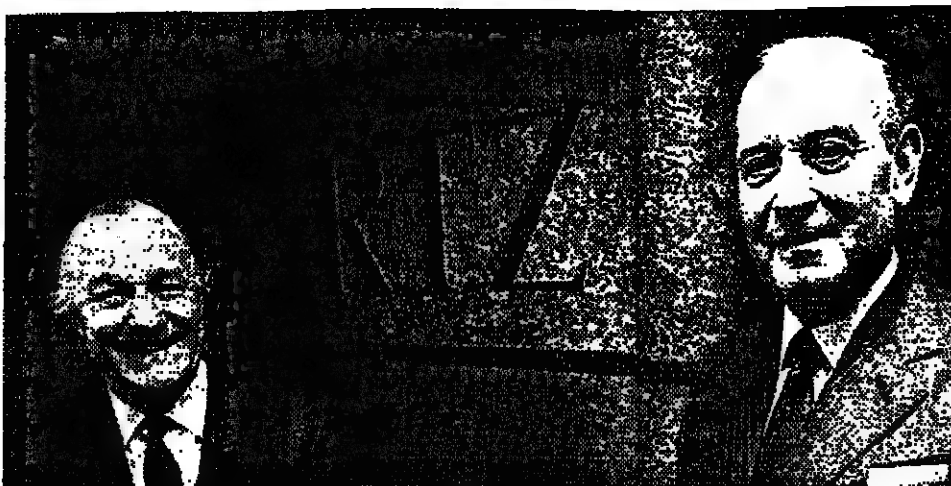
No such disadvantages attach to the BTR warrants announced yesterday. The shareholders themselves will be given one free warrant for every 33 shares held and each warrant will entitle them to subscribe to one new share in BTR at 285p each.

At today's price of 284p, there is virtually no dilution. Meanwhile, the shareholders have the option to subscribe for more BTR shares at today's price in 1992 or 1993, or alternatively they can sell their warrants in the market for anything between 30p and 80p depending on how they are rated.

The advantage to BTR will be the future proceeds amounting to £146 million in cash. Because of the dilutive effect, BTR says that it does not intend to use warrants, with their market value established, as sweeteners in cash takeovers, but other companies may take up the idea.

If BTR can sustain its past and current performance, these warrants should represent pure gain to the shareholders. Interim pre-tax profits jumped 31 per cent to £368 million. About half the increase in profits came from acquisitions, especially the first-time contribution from ACI International, the Australian-based industrial group bought last March.

The other half came from the usual array of improving ratios the market has come to expect from BTR — margins up by a full percentage point to 15.5 per cent, reducing the



RTZ poker team: Derek Birkin (left) and Sir Alistair Frame (Photograph: Bob Gannon)

material content by 0.5 per cent, reducing working capital by two days, the list is endless. Analysts are looking to BTR to produce about £760 million pre-tax in the full year, depending on currency movements. In the first half, the adverse effect of the United States dollar was more or less offset by the strength of the Australian dollar.

The prospective multiple is a shade under 10, and the yield is 5.4 per cent. As ever, great value.

RTZ

RTZ Corporation might believe itself an excellent poker player because it can keep the market guessing as to its next corporate move, and because it has drawn a blanket over current Lasmo developments.

But the amount of shuffling of its pack of cards in the past six months, during which Mr Derek Birkin, the chief executive, and Sir Alistair Frame, the chairman, have sold more companies than they have bought, only points to one thing — RTZ has put its house in sufficient financial order to be ready to pounce on something big.

Gone are RTZ Cement,

RTZ Oil and Gas, Home Insulation and Thos W Ward (Roadstone) which collectively brought in £651 million. In has come MK, the electrical group, for which it paid £255 million.

Meanwhile, and helped by strong organic growth in the first half of 1988, the financial muscle has grown and what was a 24 per cent net gearing position has now been trimmed to 10 per cent.

Add in the market value of its 29 per cent stake in Lasmo, currently worth to RTZ £289 million compared with its effective purchase price of £135 million, and the world looks to be RTZ's oyster.

The group should, in any case, be very much in investors' minds following interim results showing net attributable profits for the six months ended June 30 at £199 million compared with £113 million a year earlier, for a 77 per cent increase, and a one-third increase in the interim dividend to 4.25p a share.

Within its new format of splitting results between natural resources and related industries there have been significant improvements.

Though higher prices have played some part in raising the

contribution from metals from £37 million to £97 million, higher efficiencies have also helped.

So this advance should not be seen as a flash in the pan, and because of the group's defensive qualities, there should be few worries if prices weaken.

Meanwhile, the industrial interests continue to perform well, and for the 1988 year net attributable profits of £385 million against £279.5 million should be within easy reach. A further final dividend is also in prospect.

At 427p, up 10p, the prospective yield is 4.4 per cent and the rating 8.8 times. Buy.

B&C

British & Commonwealth shares — down another 6p to 216p yesterday — dropped after the analysts quizzed the company on its interim results rather than before. That emphasizes the post-crash estrangement between the investment barons and former favourite son, Mr John Gunn.

Mr Gunn's plans to convert B&C from a caterpillar to a butterfly are still at the stage where there is too much

builders' rubble about to see the beauty of the design.

Most of the businesses have done well, apart from Gartmore investment management and realizations, which was hit by the crash, on the £250 million development portfolio (halved to £12.5 million).

But the Bricom trading activities, in for £21.8 million at halfway, have now gone, to be replaced in the second half by four months of Atlantic Computers, probably worth about the same amount. And the buyouts of the money-brokers Marshalls and William Street remain imminent.

The 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profit to £82.9 million is also blurred by the accounting argument over amortization of goodwill, which knocks off £20 million (£6.4 million in 1987) the way in which B&C does it, reducing pre-tax profit to £63 million against £65 million. The problem has been exacerbated by the exchange of Bricom for Atlantic. That leaves £1.3 billion of the £1.5 billion of shareholders' funds for goodwill, inviting specious charges of over-gearing.

To make matters worse, half-time earnings per share (basic before goodwill amortization) have dropped from 13.1p to 12.4p because of the preference dividends payable on the former holding of the Cayzer family, whose timing looks better than Mr Gunn's.

Remaining fans of Mr Gunn will, however, look for pre-goodwill earnings above 13.5p per share in the second half, making a 15 per cent improvement on the year. In six months' time, the shares would, therefore, sell at less than 8.5 times earnings with a likely yield of 6.2 per cent. Given the realizable asset value, believers should buy now, while others wait a year to see if the butterfly flies.

Rowntree war nets Suchard £163m

By Colin Narborough

Jacobs Suchard's withdrawal from the Rowntree battle with its Swiss rival Nestlé has allowed the Zurich coffee and confectionery group, to award its shareholders a 10 per cent bonus.

The extra payout, announced yesterday, is being made on the strength of the SwFr430 million (£163 million) the company netted from selling its 29.9 per cent stake in the York sweets and chocolate-maker to Nestlé.

Suchard's decision to withdraw swiftly followed Nestlé's increased offer of 1,075p per share.

This compared with the average 775p Suchard paid for the shares after its dawn raid on Rowntree in April.

Suchard said: "The profit from the sale of the Rowntree shares will allow the board to propose to the annual meeting a special 10 per cent bonus."

The extraordinary profit will also be used to fund expansion and speed up the restructuring it intends to undertake ready for the Single European Market in 1992.

The Jacobs Suchard Museum in Zurich will receive a financial boost, and a new foundation for the young will be endowed with SwFr30 million.

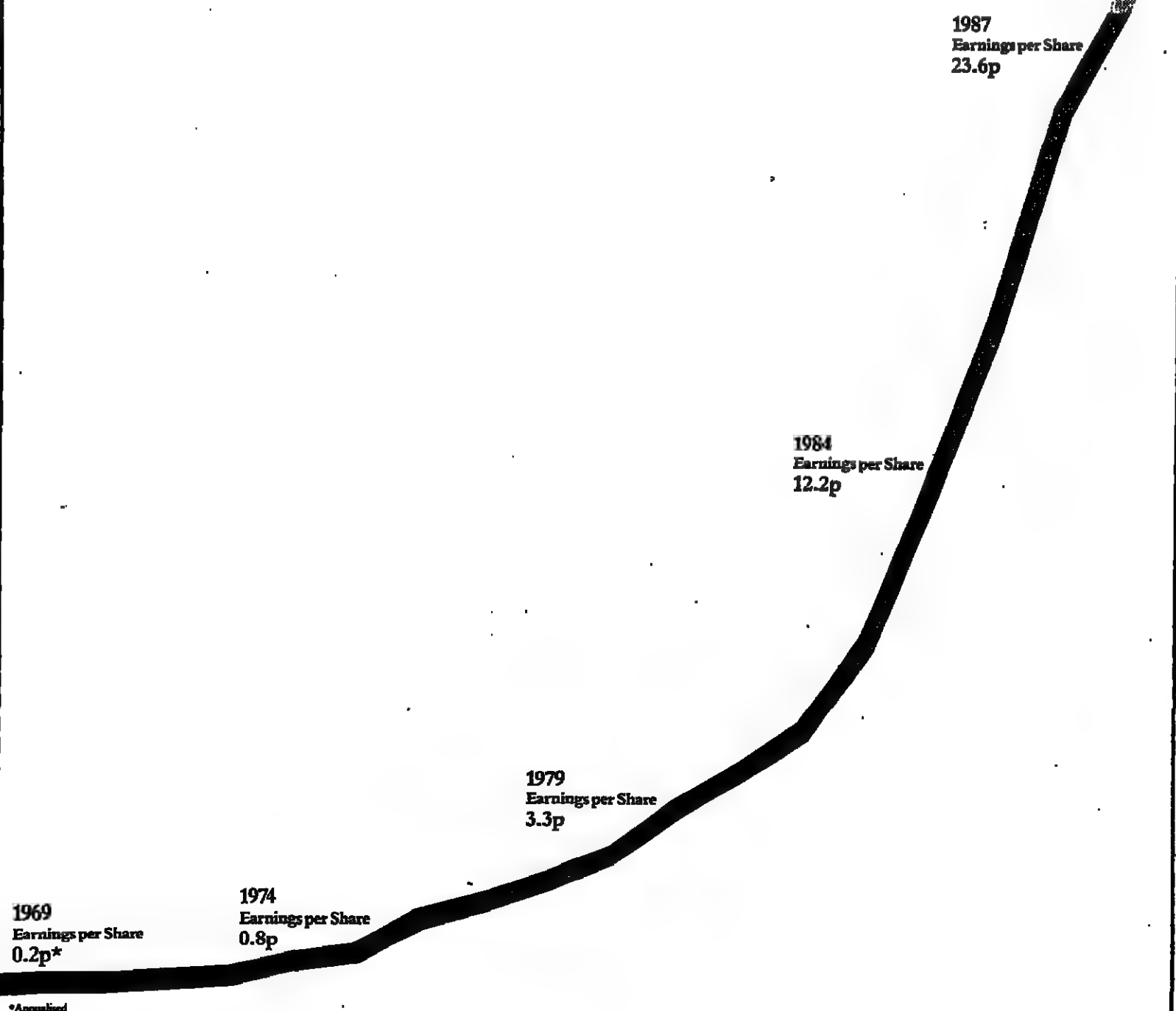
But Suchard's news was not all good.

Heavy competition, fluctuating coffee prices and high marketing costs prevented first-half group profits from matching those for the same period last year.

This was despite sales being 6 per cent higher at SwFr2.94 billion, with confectionery showing the best performance.

BTR'S EARNINGS PER SHARE 1969 TO 1987

1988 Interim Results	Increase on 1987
Sales £2,614 million	+ 27%
Profits pre-tax £368 million	+ 31%
Earnings per Share (half year) 13.5p	+ 26%



You may think our growth is a bit steep, but it's true.

BTR

FOR YOUR COPY OF BTR'S 1988 INTERIM RESULTS, WRITE TO SILVERTOWN HOUSE, VINCENT SQUARE, LONDON SW1P 2PL OR PHONE 01-434 3848.

Reassurance from Goodison

By John Young

A tacit assurance that the City will be more responsive to industry's concern about the activities of large investors was given by Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange.

Sir Nicholas agreed there should be greater co-operation between the City and industry in their approach to Government and to joint ventures. He was replying to a call by Mr

Ross Buckland, president of the Food and Drink Federation, for tighter controls on institutional share trading and a revision of UK mergers policy to safeguard the competitiveness of British-based food and drink manufacturing companies.

Speaking at the federation's annual luncheon in London, Mr Buckland said: "There is concern that, if unchecked,

some institutions will continue to trade in the shares of our companies for short-term advantage without recognition of the medium, let alone long-term. The important thing is that the food and drink industry should meet the needs of the economy, the people who work in it, its retail and wholesale customers, and its end customers, the consumers."

Bellwinch plc

- EARNINGS PER SHARE (FULLY DILUTED) 13.7p — UP 29%
- PROFIT BEFORE TAX £7.015m — UP 48%
- TURNOVER £42.4m — UP 36%



Building Excellence as Standard

Copies of the Report and Accounts will be obtainable from the Secretary from 3rd October.

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Fax No. 01-903 4974

Schroders

Interim Statement

15th September, 1988

The Directors of Schroders Public Limited Company have resolved to pay an interim dividend for the year ending 31st December, 1988 of 6p per share on the Ordinary Shares of £1 each (fully paid) and on the non-voting Ordinary Shares of £1 each (fully paid). This dividend is the same as the interim dividend paid in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1987.

The dividend will be payable on 27th October, 1988 to shareholders whose names appear in the Register of Members of the Company as at 29th September, 1988.

The profits of the Schroder Group for the first six months of 1988 were lower than in the same period of the previous year.

120 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DS



John Lewis Partnership plc

Department stores and Waitrose supermarkets

Consolidated unaudited results for the half year ended 30 July 1988

	1988 £m	1987 £m	% change
Sales (including VAT)	893.2	798.2	+12
Trading Profit	62.1	53.8	+15
Interest	3.2	2.4	+34
Pensions Fund Contribution	8.0	7.1	+13
Surplus available for preference dividends, profit sharing and, subject to taxation, for retentions	50.9	44.3	+15

Sales and profit

Sales rose by £45m (+11%) in the department store division and by £50m (+13%) in Waitrose. Profits moved ahead at a faster rate than sales and for the first time topped £50m before tax in the first half of the year.

Profit sharing

Allocation between retentions and profit sharing is determined when the results for the full year are known. Preference dividends for the half year were £109,000 (£109,000).

For further details of the results and/or the John Lewis Partnership please telephone 01-637 3434 Ext 6221.

Ratners jumps to £6.5m as sales new look pays off

By Carol Ferguson

Ratners Group, the jewellery chain, shows no sign of a slowdown in its phenomenal growth rate of recent years. Helped by a contribution from recent US acquisitions, pre-tax profits almost doubled from £3.4 million to £6.5 million in the first half of 1988.

Much of the improvement came from a change in British marketing strategy.

Cheaper supplies enabled the group to improve its gross margins by almost 3 percentage points. Mr Gerald Ratner, the group's chairman and managing director, said:

"But we reduced our gross margins by extending our summer sale into September to see if we could make up our net margins from increased turnover, and it works," he said.

This year, there will be a three-week gap between the end of the current sale and the start of the pre-Christmas sale on October 24.

"There is still heavy emphasis on cost control, but the increase in sales puts our net margin through the roof," Mr Ratner said.

Mr Ratner is also enthusiastic about prospects in the US. "It is a sleepy industry, and



Sale tactics: Gerald Ratner profits nearly doubled

competition is weak", he said. "We aim to have 10 per cent of this \$3 billion (£1.8 billion) market with 750 shops in five or 10 years."

In the UK, Ratners will add 106 stores to its chain by

Christmas, giving it a total of 830 stores. In the US, there will be 310 stores in operation, including 48 new store openings, giving a total of 1,140 stores open before Christmas.

Mr Ratner said that his

group's market share had risen to 23 per cent, compared with 19.3 per cent last year, and he predicted that it could be 27 per cent by the year-end.

"We are on target for our stated aim of a 50 per cent market share", he said.

He claims to have little opposition, as the independents are still declining.

Mr George Davies's Next, a new entrant, was selling mainly costume jewellery and gifts and did not compete directly with the merchandise sold by Ratners.

"In fact, we do even better when Next opens a new jewellery store because it replaces a Weir or a Collingwood shop which do compete with us," Mr Ratner said.

The interim dividend is increased by 32 per cent to 1.65p net, a response, Mr Ratner said, to accusations that he had been mean with the dividend.

Interim earnings per share were up by 45 per cent to 2.76p.

Mr Ratner said he was confident about the future, despite high interest rates. "Most of our customers are not married yet, do not have mortgages, and are unaffected by interest rates", he said.

83% rise at Michael Peters

By Our City Staff

Pre-tax profits at Michael Peters Group, the marketing services consultancy, rose by 83 per cent to £2.13 million in the year to end-June helped by contributions for four months from two acquisitions.

The final dividend is 2.2p, making a total of 3.7p, up from 3p last time.

In the United States, Hambrecht Tervell International contributed £300,000 pre-tax for the four months since its acquisition, while Spectrum Communications in this country made £100,000 during the same period.

The department store operations in the United States have seen a temporary downturn, said Mr Ian Farfield, the chairman of Peters, because of the drastic realignment of the industry caused by the \$6 billion-plus acquisition of Federated Department Stores by the Campeau Corporation earlier this year. Bloomingdale's, the flagship of the Federated Department Stores group, is a client of Peters.

Hamleys for sale 'at £40m'

By Martin Waller

Hamleys, the toy shop in London's Regent Street which claims to be the world's oldest and biggest, has been formally put up for sale by Lowndes Queensway, the new owner of the Harris Queensway retail group.

The consortium headed by Mr James Gulliver, which took over Sir Philip Harris's empire last month, is giving prospective bidders for the shop until October 3.

Market sources believe it wants around £40 million, against the £30 million Sir Philip paid for it and three

smaller ones, in 1986. Sir Philip's attempt to set up a chain of Hamleys stores in the provinces failed, and all but the Regent Street store have now been closed or sold.

The Gulliver consortium said when it took over that it wanted to take the whole group back to its core business of furniture and carpet retailing.

Interest has already been expressed by 20 or 30 potential buyers in the US, Switzerland, West Germany, France, Hong Kong, and Japan, as well as from Britain. Mr

Graham Watson, a director at Noble Grossart, the Scottish merchant bank which is handling the sale, said it looked likely the store would be bought by a foreign purchaser, anxious to open its equivalent overseas.

"We see Hamleys as being a name which should be represented in major cities."

"It should be in New York, Paris and Rome," he added.

Preliminary indications are that the existing management was not interested in mounting a buy-out, he said.

Tyndall soars 266% to interim £7m

By Richard Thomson

Tyndall Holdings, the financial services company, yesterday announced a 266 per cent increase in pre-tax profits, from £1.9 million to £7 million, for the six months to June 30. Turnover was up 32 per cent, to £19.52 million.

The result was substantially helped by a full half-year contribution for the first time

from Clayton Robard, the Australian business acquired by Tyndall last year.

At the same time, Tyndall revealed two further purchases, both in North America. It has bought the whole of Newport International, a US fund management group based in San Francisco, and a 25 per cent stake in Morgan

Tattersall, a Canadian fund management company. The group is also expanding its activities in the Far East, including the opening of a new office in Hong Kong.

Tyndall said that its financial position was very sound, with a net cash position of £36.2 million and shareholders' funds of £62.3 million.

CANDOVER INVESTMENTS plc

The Leaders in Management Buy-outs

CONTINUING ASSET & PROFIT GROWTH

For the half year ended June 30, 1988

- Net assets up 23 per cent to £31.3 m – equivalent to 432p per share ex-dividend – and more than double the rise in the FT ALL SHARE INDEX, over the period.
- Pre-tax profits up 46 per cent to £690,000.
- Interim dividend declared at 3.5p per share compared with 3.0p per share for the same period last year.
- Three significant listings in London and Amsterdam of Candover sponsored buy-outs.
- New investments in UK and European buy-outs.

Recent Management Buy-outs completed

United Kingdom

HAYS (£255 m) LOWNDES LAMBERT (£18 m)
HUMBERCLYDE (£205 m) MOTOR WORLD (£11 m)
DWEK (£35 m) DON REYNOLDS (£3 m)

West Germany

HEIDEMANN-WERKE (DM 55 m)

USA

CENTURY WRECKER (\$15 m)

CANDOVER INVESTMENTS plc

Cedric House, 8-9 East Harding Street, London EC4A 3AS.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND RELATED INDUSTRIES

NET PROFIT—UP 77%

EARNINGS PER SHARE—UP 77% DIVIDEND PER SHARE—UP 33%

	Half Year '88	Half Year '87
Net profit (after tax and minorities)	£199m	£113m
Earnings per share	25.6p	14.5p
Dividend	4.25p	3.2p

RTZ

THE RTZ CORPORATION PLC, 6 ST JAMES'S SQUARE, LONDON SW1Y 4LD

The full interim statement is being posted to shareholders. For further copies please write to:
The RTZ Corporation PLC, 1 Redcliff Street, Bristol BS1 6NT.

INTERCITY

Profit collapse revealed at Buckley's Brewery

By Lawrence Lever

Buckley's Brewery, the Welsh brewer which until recently was run by Mr Peter Clowes and Mr Guy von Cramer, has unveiled a loss before tax of £763,000 in long-delayed figures, released yesterday.

The results are the first since Mr Clowes and Mr von Cramer took the company over last October and cover the nine months to end-December, 1987. They compare with profits before tax of £1.1 million in the year to March 1987. No final dividend is recommended.

Buckley's shares, which have been suspended at 160p, pending the release of the results, are due to return from suspension this morning, at the company's request.

The principal reason for the fall is an exceptional item of just over £1 million taken above the line.

This includes compensation of £269,000 paid to former directors who resigned following last year's takeover, and £579,000 provisions taken into the profit and loss account for the diminution in value of a hotel owned by

Buckley's which it was planning to sell.

The company also announced that the appointment of Sir Alun Talfan Davies as chairman of Buckley's has been found to be invalid.

This is because he is over 70 years old and the company's articles say that a shareholder's resolution was required to appoint him.

He was mistakenly appointed without a resolution.

The company's annual report and accounts, also released yesterday, show that Buckley's purchased over £1 million in listed shares in the second half of October 1987, an unusual activity for the company, and has suffered a loss of £144,000 on them.

The company says that some of this loss has been recovered and that Buckley's share buying activities have been discontinued.

The accounts also show that the company lent £272,000 to Bracken Nominees Ltd, a company of which Mr Guy von Cramer was a director at the time of the loan. This money has since been repaid

with interest. However, £50,000 worth of shares purchased by Buckley's have been caught up in a freezing order obtained against Bracken by the liquidators of Barlow Clowes, the crashed investment group.

The figures also include a £3.4 million revaluation surplus, representing the increase in value of the company's fixed assets at December 31, 1987.

The future of Buckley's as an independent company is hanging in the balance, as Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank, is selling off a 53 per cent stake.

The merchant bank is selling the stake to recover a debt, believed to be around £8 million, which was owed to it by a company called Brodian.

Brodian was the vehicle used by Mr Clowes and Mr von Cramer to bid for Buckley's.

About 50 parties have expressed interest in the Buckley's stake and a prospectus is expected to be sent out by Singer within the next fortnight.



Seeking acquisitions: Richard Allan, the chairman of Perry

Perry up 47% in spite of estate agency losses

By Martin Waller

Perry Group, the motor dealer, raised pre-tax profits 47 per cent to £3.75 million in the six months to end-June.

The figures were achieved despite the inclusion of around £200,000 of losses from its estate agency chain, which has now been sold.

An extraordinary credit of £2 million will be taken "below the line" at the year-end in connection with the sale, said Mr Richard Allan, the chairman and chief executive.

The company has spent £11 million on new dealerships since June 1987, and acquisitions will continue in the second half. Gearing was currently about 40 per cent.

Although no firm commitments have been made, the group is interested in entering the US market.

New car sales rose 36 per cent in the first half before the traditional August rush, which broke all records this year and was reflected in group sales to date. But Mr Allan was cautious about the last quarter, given the increase in interest rates.

The half-way dividend is raised to 2.75p, from 2p, to redress the balance between interim and final payments.

Analysts are now looking for profits of around £8 million in the current year.

John Lewis issues spending warning

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

John Lewis, the department store and supermarket group which is effectively owned by its staff, has pushed up profits faster than sales in the first half despite less brisk trading conditions in central London. But Mr Peter Lewis, the chairman, has given a warning about the impact of the Government's attempts to rein in consumer spending.

Pretax profits and the surplus for the partnership bonus rose by 15 per cent to £50.8 million while sales advanced by 12 per cent to £893.2 million from £798.2 million in the six months to July 30.

Turnover in the department stores rose by £40 million and that of the Waitrose supermarkets by £50 million. Wholesale and manufacturing sales, from the Lancashire textile spinners and weavers acquired last February and the Carlisle, Cumbria, textile printer, amounted to £15 million against £10 million.

"The second half has started well. After six weeks, sales are 11 per cent ahead of last year. At that sort of rate we could look forward with confidence to yet another satisfactory year. And so it may prove but we are being told almost hourly that the cure for the imbalance in the country's economy is to be less spending in the shops as soon as possible - 'dampening consumer demand' as the politicians unattractively put it," said Mr Lewis.

He added that there was still uncertainty about the measures the Government may take to bring this about, "all of which may have some effect on our results for 1988."

COMPANY BRIEFS

EPWIN GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.60 (£0.90)m
EPS: 2.9 (4.9)p
Div: 1.6 (1.6)p

MAGNOLIA GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.57 (£0.56)m
EPS: 6.38 (6.29)p
Div: 1.55 (1.4)p

SALE TILNEY (Int)
Pre-tax: £2.16 (£2.22)m
EPS: 5.7 (7.0)p
Div: 4.5 (4.0)p

MCGLAUGHLIN & HRVY (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.81 (£0.67)m
EPS: 12.5 (11.2)p
Div: 3.0 (2.5)p

CORPORATE EST (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.19 (£0.32)m
EPS: 2.33 (0.90)p
Div: 1.25 (0.30)p

LONDON LTD. INV. (Int)
Pre-tax: £4.17 (£5.33)m
EPS: 4.42 (5.90)p
Div: 3.0 (3.0)p

GARTON ENG. (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.56 (£0.34)m
EPS: 9.84 (6.54)p
Div: 1.5 (1.25)p

MANDERS HLDGS. (Int)
Pre-tax: £3.34 (5.20)p
EPS: 1.80 (1.60)p
Div: 1.80 (1.60)p

GEORGE INGHAM (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.22 (£0.19)m
EPS: 6.93 (7.75)p
Div: 1p (1p)

TAVENER RUTLEDGE (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.02 (£0.10)m
EPS: 0.81 (3.53)p
Div: nil

FINLAY PACKAGING (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.56 (£0.54)m
EPS: 4.26 (4.06)p
Div: 0.75 (0.75)p

J. HEWITT (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.12 (£0.24)m
EPS: 1.7 (3.9)p
Div: 1 (1)p

MEMORY COMPS (Fm)
Pre-tax: £0.31 (£0.61)m
EPS: 0.54 (1.79)p
Div: nil

Turnover £16.62 (£13.44)m. Chairman reports continued optimism with company taking advantage of market conditions.

Turnover £9.60 (£8.62)m. Factory production being transferred to Loughborough. Move expected to improve efficiency.

Turnover £37.21 (£42.98)m. Due to acquisition profit before tax for full year will be marginally less than expected.

Turnover £43.78 (£25.13)m. Trading at record level and company is assured of further progress in 1988.

Turnover £20.95 (£2.59)m. Business has progressed in all areas with further developments expected for second half.

Company to consolidate and create new products. Although cautious at present is optimistic for the future.

Turnover £10.34 (£7.49)m. Present level of activity is expected to be maintained. Year results should reflect this.

Turnover £28.96 (£28.37)m. Chairman reports good start to second-half sales. Encouraging prospects for remainder of year.

Turnover £3.68 (£2.57)m. Future trend difficult to forecast. Directors hope for wool market to stabilise.

Current trading encouraging but with 30% export sales outlook has to be viewed with caution.

Turnover £4.81 (£4.51)m. Company expects to maintain final dividend at last year's level.

Turnover £4.61 (£4.54)m. The pattern of higher sales and profits in second half of year could be repeated in 1988.

Pursuing its objective to be a major systems integrator and software supplier. Group faces the future with confidence.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings September 12, Last Dealings September 23, Last Declaration December 8, For Settlement December 19. Call options were taken out on: 15/9/88 Sears, Oliver Resources, Trusthouse Forte, Wm. & Wm. Owners Abroad, Low & Bonar, Mariner, Standard & Chartered, Bank, Wm. Smith & A., Brite Mining, Mountbatten, H Young, Cadbury, P&G & Cable News Resources, S&P.

£5.6m telephone acquisitions

By Our City Staff

National Telecommunications, the fast-growing producer of telephone systems which came to the market in July, yesterday announced the acquisition of two companies for £5.6 million.

Solid State Systems, based in Atlanta, Georgia, a producer of telecommunications equipment, which will be bought for £3.3 million, made

a loss of \$763,000 (£455,000) during the year to June 30. Net assets were \$2.56 million. However, the company has traded profitably since the beginning of the year, according to NT.

The other company is TVC General, a producer of telecommunications systems aimed at the small business sector. It is currently one of NT's

main competitors in the distribution market. The seller is Granada Group, the leisure and communications company.

For the year ended March 31, TVC reported an operating profit (before interest) of £501,000 on turnover of £8.19 million. For the three previous years the company reported losses.

Bellwinch up to £7.5m

Bellwinch, the house-building group, lifted pre-tax profits by 48 per cent to £7.54 million on turnover up 36 per cent to £42.44 million for the year ended June 30.

The company expects a good performance during the current year, although the bulk of the profits will arrive in the second half because of delays in receiving detailed

planning consents for a number of building sites.

Further growth will be achieved upon the quality of profits rather than unit output, the company added. Earnings per share rose by 29.2 per cent to 13.7p on a fully diluted basis. A final dividend of 2.65p per share was announced, making a total of 3.75p (1p).

North Sea go-ahead

The Government has approved the first new North Sea oil projects since the Piper Alpha disaster, giving the go-ahead for the development of the Mobil Camelot gas field, the Amoco Indefatigable D gas field and the Hamilton Brothers Crawford oil field.

Camelot and Indefatigable D will be unmanned gas production platforms, while

Crawford will be a floating production system with a small crew.

Mr Peter Morrison, the Energy Minister, said yesterday that new projects will be approved provided the operators comply with any new safety rules that may emerge following the official inquiry into the Piper Alpha incident.

On 15 September 1988 The Dee Corporation PLC changed its name to

THE
GATEWAY
CORPORATION PLC

Silbury Court, 418 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 2NB



1988 Interim Report

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Results

Pre-tax profit for the first 24 weeks of 1988 was £63 million (1987 £60 million), after a charge of £14 million for restructuring arising from reorganisation and severance costs in a planned UK workforce reduction (1987 £2 million). This was achieved after a reduced charge for net research and development costs of £77 million (1987 £84 million).

Interest received amounted to £6 million, against a charge of £8 million last year, reflecting a strong cash position; net cash balances at mid-year were £121 million.

Prospects

Significant new business has been taken in both the civil and military aero sectors resulting in an increase to £3.4 billion in the order book (end-1987 £2.8 billion); further opportunities continue to present themselves.

Dividend

The directors have declared an interim dividend of 2.10p per ordinary share. This will be paid on 5 December 1988 to those shareholders on the register on 21 October 1988.

Sir Francis Tombs

UNAUDITED GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the 24 weeks to 18 June, 1988

	Notes	First 24 weeks 1988	First 24 weeks 1987	Year to 31 December 1987
Turnover	1	893	899	2,059
Operating profit	1	148	152	347
Research and development (net)		(77)	(84)	(187)
Profit before interest		71	68	160
Net interest receivable (payable)		6	(8)	(4)
Profit before exceptional item		77	60	156
Exceptional item - restructuring costs		(14)	-	-
Profit before taxation		63	60	156
Taxation		(8)	(8)	(21)
Profit after taxation		55	52	135
Minority interests		-	-	(1)
Profit attributable to shareholders		55	52	134
Dividends - Interim proposed		(17)	(14)	(42)
Retained profit		38	38	92
Earnings per ordinary share	3			
Net basis		6.9p	7.9p	18.2p
Net basis excluding exceptional item		8.4p	7.9p	18.2p

NOTES

1. Turnover

	1988	1987	1987	1987
Civil Aero	406	46	405	45
Military Aero	361	40	367	41
Industrial and Marine	91	6	54	6
Other activities	75	8	73	8
	893	100	899	100

Operating Profit

	1988	1987	1987	1987
Civil Aero	72	18	85	21
Military Aero	64	18	58	16
Industrial and Marine	8	16	5	10
Other activities	4	5	4	5
	148	17	152	17

Ongoing restructuring costs, charged against operating profit, were

		(2)	(7)
--	--	-----	-----

2. The Group produces accounts on a four weekly basis. As income and expenditure do not accrue evenly throughout the year, the results for any particular 24 weeks may not be representative of the whole year.

3. Earnings per ordinary share on the net basis are calculated by dividing the profit attributable to shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares - 801 million (1987 first 24 weeks 659 million, full year 738 million) in issue during the period.

4. The comparative figures for the year to December 31, 1987 have been abridged from the Group's accounts for that year, which received an unqualified auditor's report and which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

ROLLS-ROYCE plc, 65 BUCKINGHAM GATE, LONDON SW1E 6AT.

Gold Fields

WHAT MAKES CONSOLIDATED GOLD MORE VALUABLE THAN OTHER GOLD

Most of the free world's gold – two-thirds, in fact – costs more to produce than ours.

In the United States, for example, our costs are \$160 per ounce compared with a national average of \$225 per ounce.

This makes us highly profitable.

We are the second largest gold producer in the western world, with an international spread of mines.

What is more, our gold production is expected to grow by over 50% in the next five years, to more than 60 tonnes per annum.

A record of success for our exploration teams who continue to work round the clock.

All of which makes our gold more valuable than other gold.

For a copy of our Annual Report which will be published early in October please write to the Secretary, Consolidated Gold Fields PLC.

Consolidated
Gold Fields
PLC



31 Charles II Street, St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4AG.

Higher interest curbing inflation, Banham says

By Colin Narborough

The Confederation of British Industry "sees early evidence" that the Chancellor's use of higher interest rates to stem inflation is working, and wants them to be given more time to brake house prices, Mr John Banham, the director general of the CBI, said yesterday.

He said after a session of the organization's ruling council that the prime evidence was to be seen in the housing market, where a change of sentiment had already occurred.

Mr Banham noted that house price inflation had increased the book value of the country's housing stock by £100 billion over the past year, while the value of companies had fallen.

By comparison, manufacturing industry's investments amounted to an annual £25 billion.

The CBI has repeatedly urged the Government to foster long-term investment to make the economy competitive, rather than encourage more consumer spending.

It fears that runaway house prices encourage house-owners to spend more on credit, and make it more difficult for skilled labour to find homes, particularly in the south-east of England.

Addressing a telecommuni-



"Business in good health": John Banham, head of the CBI

cations conference yesterday, Mr Banham said that a 15 per cent fall in the cost of houses in London would have a "dramatic and beneficial effect" on the flow of commercial traffic in the region.

But he refused to be drawn over whether CBI policy was to make house prices drop, beyond saying that the organization would like to see the cost of living in London

Dealers in Ecu T-bills are named

By David Smith Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England yesterday named 29 firms which will act as market-makers in the new European currency unit-denominated Treasury bills.

The 29 are the clearing banks, some leading European banks and other large international money market players. They have agreed to support the Bank's monthly Ecu-bill tenders and act as market-makers.

The first tender for the bills will be on October 11, when a range of maturities will be offered, probably of one, three and six months. Tenders must be for a minimum of Ecu500,000 (£330,000) and in multiples of Ecu100,000. It is planned to develop a market worth between Ecu1 billion and Ecu2 billion.

Bank of England officials said that the aim of the market is to give the Government greater flexibility in its borrowing, as well as providing the first tradable Ecu paper of sovereign quality.

Although the effect of the new bills will be to boost Britain's official reserves, officials stressed that this was not the main purpose. Buyers for the new bills are expected to include overseas central banks and international institutions. The yield on the bills is likely to be below the London interbank bid rate.

HKSE threatens to cancel nine 'unsuitable' listings

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Stock Exchange has launched a clamp-down on companies which it says are no longer suitable for public listing.

The exchange has listed nine companies which it says do not qualify for listing because of the size or nature of their business or because there are not enough shares in public hands.

Mr Robert Fell, the chief executive, has given the companies six months to comply with listing requirements. He said any changes to the companies must be approved by the existing shareholders, "failing which the controlling shareholders have been requested to privatise the company by making a cash offer to the minorities rather than incur a cancellation of the listing."

If the companies want to be listed in future they will be treated as new applications. The nine are First City Investments, Gulf Arabian, Lawe William Enterprises, Mega Pacific, Paramount Development, Sin King Cheung Hing Yip Company, Uniworld Investments, Wah May Investment Company, and Wan Pao Navigation Company.

Mr Fell said any other companies considered no longer suitable for listing will also be suspended from trading.

In addition, the exchange is

going to cancel the listing of shell companies.

The exchange is banning the issue of "B" shares, issued at a fraction of the price of ordinary shares but with the same voting rights. Last year the Standing Committee on Company Law Reform recommended that "B" shares only be approved in exceptional cases.

The committee's decision came after the Jardine Matheson chairman, Mr Simon Keswick, and Mr Li Ka-shing, of Hutchison Whampoa, said they planned to issue "B" shares. They were followed by a spate of planned issues by Chinese tycoons and a crisis of confidence followed.

Rate rises in G7 'are essential'

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

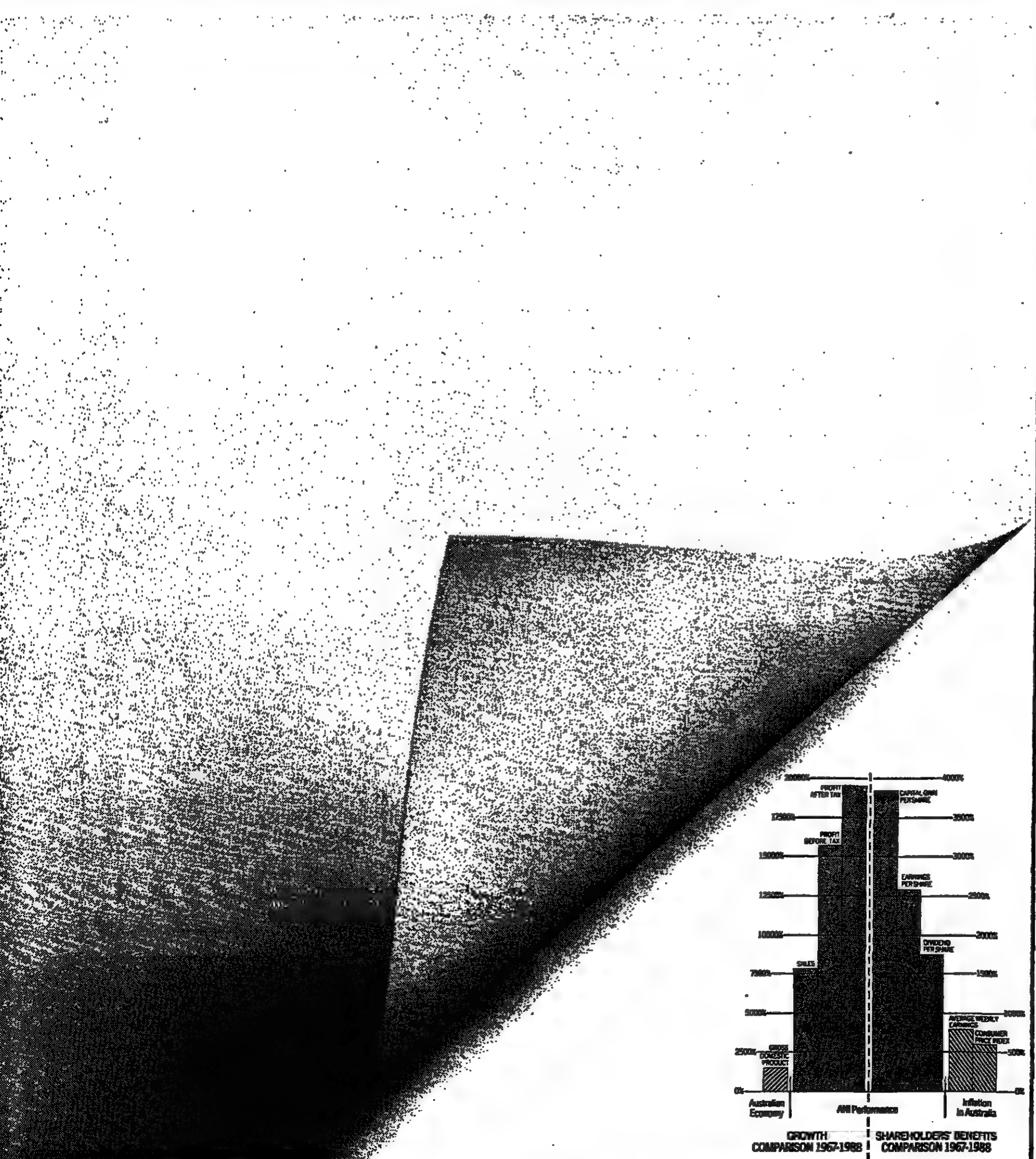
Mr Satoshi Sumita, Governor of the Bank of Japan, said there is no sign of a relaxation in the spirit of the Louvre Accord, despite interest rate rises in Britain, the US, West Germany and other nations.

Mr Sumita told the annual meeting of the Securities Dealers Association of Japan yesterday that recent rises in discount rates reflected a common understanding among members of the Group of Seven that stable prices are essential for economic growth and to rectify external imbalance.

He said: "The rises in the official discount rates and flexible open market operations were to forestall overshooting of their economies and concern about inflation."

RECENT ISSUES									
EQUITIES		SCORPION		STOCKS		BONDS		COMMODITIES	
BASS (110p)	110	Severfield-R (80p)	80	Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Gold	380
Bentley (110p)	110	Sonic Tape (15p)	15	Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Oil	28
Bentley (110p)	110	Steeley	15	Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Wheat	12
Bentley (110p)	110	Tamara (10p)	10	Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Corn	12
Bentley (110p)	110	Thomson (125p)	125	Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Soybean	12
Bentley (110p)	110	Zurich Group	125	Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Wheat	12
Bentley (110p)	110			Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Corn	12
Bentley (110p)	110			Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Soybean	12
Bentley (110p)	110			Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Wheat	12

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS									
STOCKS		BONDS		COMMODITIES		CURRENCY		FUTURES	
Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Gold	380	1000000000	100	Oil	28
Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Oil	28	1000000000	100	Wheat	12
Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Wheat	12	1000000000	100	Corn	12
Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Corn	12	1000000000	100	Soybean	12
Adm Lyon	22	1000000000	100	Soybean	12	1000000000	100	Wheat	12



VISIBLE PROFITS FROM THE INVISIBLE WIZARDS.

ANI isn't exactly a household name, but that hasn't stopped us becoming one of Australia's largest and most profitable companies.

By the year ended 30th June 1988, ANI had achieved 21 years of continuous profit growth.

Our record since 1967 has been:

	1967	1988	Compound Growth P.A.
Sales	\$A19.0m	\$A1,433.7m	23%
Profit before tax	\$A0.7m	\$A110.9m	27%
Profit after tax	\$A0.4m	\$A74.8m	28%
Earnings per share	0.8 cents	20.2 cents	17%
Dividend per share	0.6 cents	10.2 cents	14%

Every year since 1967, our profits before and after tax have increased. So have dividends per share.

There aren't a lot of companies that can boast such a record, especially in the difficult engineering sector.

Our products and services are at work throughout Australia and the rest of the world, supporting industry and Government and helping satisfy consumer demand.

We export to over 30 countries and operate a growing range of international businesses.

We have four core divisions: contracting, distribution, manufacturing and service.

If you'd like to know more about our aims and achievements, phone or write to Debbie Potts (01-638 9571) at Dewe Rogerson Ltd, 3 1/2 London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London EC2M 5SY.

And all will be made visible.

ani
Australian National Industries Limited.
THE INVISIBLE WIZARDS OF OZ

The contents of this statement, for which the Directors of ANI Limited are solely responsible, have been approved for the purposes of the Financial Services Act 1986 by Moore Stephens and Co. Chartered Accountants. The rules of the SIB require a statement that rates of foreign currency exchange and levels and bases of taxation can vary and that past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. ANI Limited has a listing for its shares on the Sydney and Melbourne Stock Exchanges.

The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Public Limited Company

Interim Dividend 1988

Notice is hereby given that a balance of the Register will be struck on Thursday, 6th October, 1988 for the preparation of warrants for an Interim Dividend for the year 1988 of 21.5p per 25p Ordinary share payable on 10th November, 1988.

For transferees to receive this dividend, their transfers must be lodged with the Company's Registrar, Lloyds Bank Plc, Registrar's Department, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 6DA, not later than 3.00 p.m. on 6th October, 1988.

SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER

The Coupon to be presented for the above dividend will be No. 179 which must be deposited for examination at Lloyds Bank Plc, Registrar's Department, Issue Section, 11, Bishopsgate, London EC2N 3LB, at least five clear days before the payment date or may be surrendered through MM. Lazard Frères, Paris.

Proposed Capitalisation Issue

Notice is also given that, subject to the necessary resolution being passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Company to be held on Wednesday, 7th December, 1988, there will be a capitalisation issue of Ordinary shares. If the recommendation is approved, two new Ordinary shares will be issued in respect of each Ordinary share held by shareholders on the Register at close of business on 8th December, 1988. The additional shares will carry the same rights as existing Ordinary shares but will not qualify for any dividends declared or paid before the conclusion of the EGM.

Further details and Notice of the EGM will be issued on or about 10th November, 1988.

SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER

The Coupon to be presented will be No. 180 and full instructions to the holders of Share Warrants to Bearer will be published in "The Financial Times" on Friday, 9th December, 1988.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Shell Centre, London, SE1 7NA
15th September, 1988
V.A. Wadham
Company Secretary

Portfolio
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DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
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Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or betters this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

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359 PROCEEDS

10.7	175	91	Sovereign	170	175	+1	..
10.9	17	11	TR Energy	11	13
11.2	6	3	Target	2	4
11.9	200	119	Erden Europe	165	167	+1	..
18.5	308	169	Ultramar (aa)	230	233	+14	8.9
13.6	91	44	Worldwide	72	76
19.8							

44	32	34	1.9
271	238	261	266
430	275	305	375
181	10	126	140
222	181	208	212
301	225	275	280
264	175	170	180

431	234	Sausch 70p (m)	345	348	●-1	207
108	79	Bo Cow	81	82	●-1	84
510	415	Stomach	477	447	●-2	823
385	308	Smith David	307	310	●-3	93
493	365	Sawyer (Jett)	425	435	●-5	
180	135	UK Paper	150	180	●+1	5.8
762	222	Licker Mokee	355	322	●+3	13.8

422	318	Cap. 3	380	318	12.3
423	318	Direct Prog	400	450	2.6
424	325	Chicardani	750	770	18.3
425	346	Crucio	155	187	4.7
426	170	Ciprino	225	235	8.7
427	140	Clara Molesta	112	122	5.0
428	200	Claron	227	237	11.7

780	175	Hedwara Druze	170	190	-5	5.6
780	875	Heldanger	880	730	..	23.1
370	188	Hekel Bar	280	226	..	4.5
188	143	Hengag Son	140	145
84	58	Hong Kong Land	58	81
430	240	Jamy Muech	347	351	..	10.0
450	280	Jerman	250	350	+100	2.3

145	RE	Permit Prop	97	807	3.0
146	66	Power Comp	123	130	1.1
424	280	Presr Market	370	370	2.1
182	130	Prop Security	170	180	4.3
34	74	Region	18	17	0.2
217	135	Region	141	143	4.3
283	513	Region	625	632	1.7

566	438	Asacq Br Forts	1405	1172	+16	10.3
393	320	Calcutta	340	350	+6	8.3
140	135	Carlson (H)	180	185	..	7.2
151	71	Fisher (James)	143	148	..	5.1
795	585	Grag	770	730	..	26.7
89	60	Jaggar, M	90	80	..	8

0.3	380	300	Alloy Test	348	355	● ..	12.8
4.0	285	228	Settle (Light)	285	275	● ..	8.4
5.4	118	107	Backrun (A)	110	115		7.9
5.4	63	34	Bottom	53	58	+5	
3.0	211	189	Br Mohair	205	210	+3	10.3
5.5	88	55	Crash	73	76	+3	2.2

365	412	Tomlinson	327	394	+6	10.7
123	52	Toscal	98 ¹	99 ¹	-1 ²	8.2
53	25	West Trust	43	46		
250	193	Yanocyte	228	230	-7	11.6b

Abstract

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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterlings											
Sep 85	87.75	87.75	87.75	87.75	4536	US Treasury Bond	90 1/8	89 1/2	89 1/2	89 1/2	1142
Oct 85	87.75	87.75	87.75	87.75	124	Dec 85	88 1/8	88 1/2	88 1/2	88 1/2	32
Dec 85	87.75	87.75	87.75	87.75	15336	Jan 86	88 1/8	88 1/2	88 1/2	88 1/2	11140
Mar 86	88.32	88.32	88.32	88.32	124	Long Gilt					
Jun 86	88.32	88.32	88.32	88.32	87	Sep 85	92 1/5	92 1/5	92 30	92 30	2264
Sep 86	88.32	88.32	88.32	88.32	87	Oct 85	92 3/8	92 3/8	92 3/8	92 3/8	16897
Dec 86	88.32	88.32	88.32	88.32	87	Mar 86	NT	NT	NT	94 01	0
Three Month Eurodolls											
Sep 85	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	FT-SE 100	1760	1760	1760	1760	13208
Oct 85	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	Dec 85	176.20	176.30	176.20	176.30	13208
Dec 85	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	Jan 86	176.20	176.30	176.20	176.30	13208
Mar 86	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	Japanese Gov Bond					
Jun 86	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	Sep 85	101.15	101.35	101.12	101.25	324
Dec 86	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	Oct 85	101.15	101.35	101.12	101.25	324
Mar 87	91.58	91.75	91.68	91.75	81	Nov 85	NT	NT	NT	100.01	0
Dec 95	NT	NT	NT	NT	30.93						

COMMODITIES

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FUTURES

G W Johnson	Jul 732-78
Sep 84-846	Sep 846-935
Dec 794-792	Dec 792-792
Mar 772-771	Mar 772-771
May 775-776	May 775-776

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Dec 794-792	Dec 792-792
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COCOA	G W Johnson	Jul 732-78
Sep 84-846	Sep 846-935	
Dec 794-792	Dec 792-792	
Mar 772-771	Mar 772-771	
May 775-776	May 775-776	

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COPPER	G W Johnson	Jul 732-78
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Mar 772-771	Mar 772-771	
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Mar 772-771	Mar 772-771	
May 775-776	May 775-776	

WHEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Official prices/volume previous day

WHEAT	G W Johnson	Jul 732-78
Sep 84-846	Sep 846-935	
Dec 794-792	Dec 792-792	
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May 775-776	May 775-776	

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May 775-776	May 775-776	

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Official prices/volume previous day

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Dec 794-792	Dec 792-792	
Mar 772-771	Mar 772-771	
May 775-776	May 775-776	

WHEAT	G W Johnson	Jul 732-78
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WHEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

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ROLLS-ROYCE MOTOR CARS
IN CREWE

FOCUS

A Special Report

New efficiency meets tradition

This year sees the 50th anniversary of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars in Crewe, a company that in war and peace has fought to maintain its tradition of quality engineering and international prestige

Style, elegance and quality of craftsmanship, steeped in tradition, is why wealthy people the world over buy a Rolls-Royce or its Bentley sister. They believe they are buying the finest car in the world.

Alongside the traditions there is now a gathering pace of change at Crewe, a realization that a Rolls-Royce can be built more efficiently without sacrificing any of the aura and quality.

Peter Ward, the chief executive, says: "Rolls-Royce has tended to rest on its tradition both in the product and the way the company was run. Now we need to change the way we run the company. However, the tradition and quality of our cars remains paramount."

For the 6,000 Crewe workforce, today's progressive change and open style of management follows some difficult years. After the unthinkable had happened and the sister Rolls-Royce aero-engine business based at Derby went bankrupt in 1971 and had to be rescued by the Government, the profitable car division was floated off as an independent concern.

Success of the Silver Shadow II helped to push production at Crewe to a record 3,300 cars in the late 1970s but such output masked the familiar burden for a small car-maker when it is time to fund development of a new model.

Only a few months before the launch of the new Silver Spirit in 1980, it was announced that the company was to merge with Vickers. The R-R shareholders were to receive a 40 per cent stake in the expanded company, which but for protests would have been called Rolls-Royce Vickers. In the world recession of the early 1980s, when production slumped to 2,100 cars and prices in the US had to be cut to clear stocks, the added strength of a large group

served Crewe well. For employees, a struggle in 1983 helped establish the basis for today's bright prospects. An acrimonious pay dispute turned into a fight to sweep away the old-style management with its four status levels of canteen and "them and us" privileges.

Now, better communication with staff has made it possible to improve output from 47 cars a week to 57 during the last three years without further recruitment.

A new computer system will soon be able to order and schedule the 82,000 parts needed for production each week. Six million pounds has already been spent on the latest machine tools, and a new £10 million paint shop will open by next July. Traditionalists should not fear the use of high-technology methods at Crewe because, while a sophisticated flexible machining centre can make swift work of preparing engine heads, blocks or other castings, there will always be a place for the steady hand which smooths the wax R-R Silver Lady bonnet emblem before it is cast or the trained eye needed to give a walnut dashboard that final polish to perfection.

Changes in management style have contributed to Rolls-Royce's progress. Until a few years ago the company had no director of product planning. Without such a key executive, models like the Bentley Turbo R, launched last week in America, may not have hit their mark.

In 1985, Rolls-Royce profit before interest climbed to £14 million, rising to £16.6 million the following year. Then came an impressive 26 per cent jump to £20.2 million as sales grew by 7 per cent — evidence, if it were needed, that efficiency and tradition can provide healthy prospects for the famous Crewe factory which celebrates its 50th anniversary in good shape for the future.

Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent



Peter Ward, chief executive, outside the Rolls-Royce factory: Progressive changes and open management after the difficult years

NEWS TEAM

THE VITAL YEARS OF MODERNIZATION

The twin objectives: growth and quality

Modernization of the Crewe factory got underway in 1973 when Rolls-Royce Motors became a public company in the aftermath of the parent company's liquidation and nationalization. Despite the oil embargo in the same year, the Sterling crisis three years later, the explosion in oil prices following the Iranian revolution and the recession of the early 1980s, it has invested heavily ever since to continue the process.

Such modernization was vital to the development and production of new models which, while still retaining a high degree of craftsmanship, had also to take advantage of the huge changes in production techniques. Consequently, the first major new building was a computer centre which opened in 1969.

Before 1973, investment began with the construction of a 21,000 sq ft Receiving Stores in an area that once formed the old Merlin aero-engine factory.

One of the motor industry's biggest worries in the early 1970s was the growing concern about exhaust pollution and tougher legislation to control it, so the company built an Emission Test house.

In 1977, a £1 million, 57,000 sq ft Car Engineering Centre was built to accommodate a styling studio, experimental workshop, electrical and electronic laboratories and engine test rigs. This released a much needed space for manufacturing.

In the same year an automated body store was built with space-saving racks to hold the incoming bodies.

In 1979, 112,000 sq ft of new manufacturing buildings and extensions were completed — the biggest creation of actual working space since the original factory was built. At

the same time, a new engineering development office was built, adjacent to the new engineering centre. In the same year, a new training centre was built.

Concurrent with this was a new spares store. More than half the Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars ever built are still in use today requiring a more comprehensive range of old and new parts than almost any other manufacturer.

In 1981, a £2 million paint finishing shop opened, embracing the latest advances in paint technology. Peter Ward, the chief executive, says: "The paint finish of Rolls-Royce



Jim Symonds, director of manufacturing planning: Aims for greater production

and Bentley cars is one of our most noted features. Our new plant will give us improved control and faster throughput while maintaining the quality our customers expect."

Jim Symonds, director of manufacturing planning, says he has three main objectives:

- Bigger production capacity to keep pace with the increasing demand;
- Greater flexibility to cope with an increase in the company's model mix;
- Reduced lead times from the present three months it takes to build a car.

Mr Symonds says: "It takes some six months to complete a crankshaft for the engine.

Obviously our cars were not designed for ease of manufacture but we have to find better ways of integrating our craftsmanship with modern technology. It is a difficult blend to achieve but to do so successfully is crucial to our future."

Another of his objectives is to halve the number of machine tools. Crewe has an astonishing 800 and most of them elderly. Computer-controlled machine tools are now arriving, like the £1 million machine which produces hubs and discs. More are in the pipeline. But automation does not go hand in glove with flexibility which is imperative to a company with Rolls-Royce's small volume.

Mr Symonds is only too aware that when the time comes for the Bentley marque to have its own individual body and equipment, flexibility will be the name of the game.

In one respect, Rolls-Royce claims to be leading the field — computer control of materials. Mr Ward says: "We bought the best system and we need the best to ensure that materials arrive on schedule in the right place for the most complicated car in the world."

"It is performing so impressively that a number of other companies are looking at it very seriously."

Another fundamental change which is taking Crewe into the 1990s is the switch in emphasis from quality maintained by a team of clipboard-carrying inspectors to quality control at the very earliest stage — by the operator on the workbench or assembly line.

Quality is also being helped by the setting up of systems and routines which feed problems back into the engineering side as rapidly as possible to speed up modification work.

Clifford Webb

For leading from the front.

For thinking on your feet.

For becoming an expert to prove the experts wrong.

For buying when everyone else was selling.

For building a better mousetrap.

For selling when everyone else was buying.

For coolness under fire.

For devotion to an ideal.

For setting your sights higher than anyone else could see.

For knowing the names of everyone in your company.

For enjoying the heat of the kitchen.

For exporting high technology to the Japanese.

For hiring people who might be better than you one day.

For sticking to your guns.

For the hours polishing up important presentations.

For being your own man.

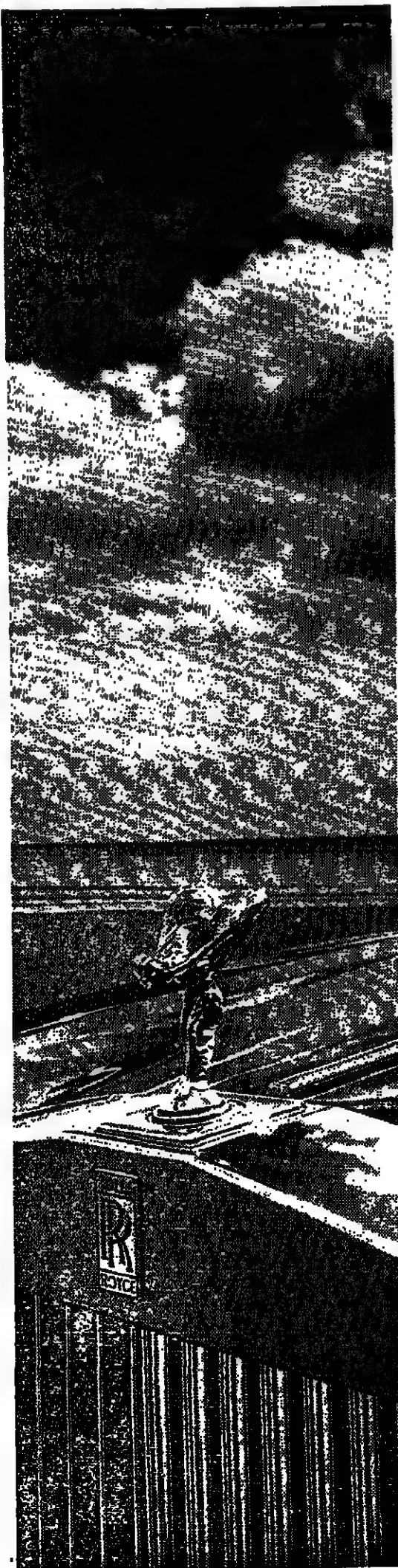
For burning the midnight oil until your business started firing on all cylinders.

For rushing in while the angels waited.

For putting it back into the business when everyone was taking it out.

For staying one step ahead of the pack.

For demanding excellence in everything you do.



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ROLLS-ROYCE MOTOR CARS IN CREWE/2

FOCUS

On the battle front and in the bankruptcy court

Getting down to earth again after the war

The Rolls-Royce connection with Crewe began at the start of the Second World War but, by a strange turn of events, was set in train back in 1914, writes Clifford Webb.

At the start of the First World War, not a British aircraft was powered by a British engine. Most, like the Rhone and Gnome, were French. Then, in August 1914, the Royal Naval Air Service (not the better-known Royal Flying Corps) asked Rolls-Royce to design an engine.

The company was chosen principally because its Derby works — opened on July 8 1908 by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu — was one of the most modern in the country.

The resulting Eagle engine had a distinguished war record and was the basis for further development, but it owed a great deal to another famous car name, Mercedes.

The German company had just won the French Grand Prix and one of the winning cars was being exhibited in Britain when war broke out. It was seized and the engine sent to Rolls-Royce for examination. The resulting V12 Eagle used the same separate welded-on water-cooling jackets.

It is ironic that Rolls-Royce's connection with aero-engines subsequently became both its strength and its weakness. In the 1930s its aircraft business became so profitable that it was able to keep the unprofitable car business going. Forty years later, on February 4, 1971, spiralling development costs on the RB 211 jet engine pushed it into bankruptcy and subsequent nationalization of the aircraft engine business by a Conservative Government.

The cars business continued to trade under the control of the Official Receiver until 1973 when it went public as Rolls-Royce Motors.

The company's connection with Crewe started in 1936 when the Government began a

programme to modernize the RAF. Existing aircraft factories were unable to cope so six motor firms were asked to build and run factories to make Bristol aero-engines.

The work on the 60-acre site at Merrill's Farm, Crewe, began in July 1938. By mid-September the framework for most of the main shop's 35 bays had been assembled. The main shop, 1,050ft long, was longer than the Queen Mary.

The factory concentrated initially on the Merlin engine, outright winner of the Schneider Trophy, holder of the world speed record of 407mph and power unit of the Spitfire and Hurricane fighters.

Production began on October 18, 1938, when the roof and walls of only one-third of the main shop were completed. Less than a year after the bulldozers moved in the first Merlin was completed.

In all, 208 engines were produced in that first year rising to 6,085 in 1943.

One of those who played a crucial role in setting up the works was a 21-year-old draughtsman, Ron Dyson. Now, 72 he retired in 1980 as training manager. In July 1938 he was part of a five-man team sent from Rolls-Royce Derby.

"I was given part of an ordinance survey map showing the site of the proposed new shadow factory and told to start planning factory blocks some 80ft by 30ft."

But if he was told to plan 80ft long blocks why did Crewe end up with the huge 1,050ft main shop? "It was all a so-and-so mistake," says Mr Dyson. "The builder was supposed to link up the blocks

with covered ways but he got on so fast we had this damned great place before we knew it".

Joe Williamson, now 82, retired in 1971 as manager of the service department, after 32 years at Crewe, where he joined as an inspector. He remembers that as frantic efforts were made to step up production, workers were drafted in from all over the country including quite a contingent of girls from Scottish fishing ports.

"Most of us were in the Home Guard with orders to defend this vital factory. We had an armoured car and kept an eye open for parachutists. Unfortunately it was not one of our own cars, which were converted to successful fighting vehicles, but a low-powered Triumph Standard."

He recalls: "We had Bren guns and that was nearly the cause of a disaster. One of our lads was on the roof when a plane came flying low over the factory. He opened up with a Bren and nearly shot down a British Avro Anson."

The arrival of the jet engine promised remarkable and towards the end of the war in Europe in 1945 the decision was made to concentrate this business on the Derby works, leaving Crewe to become the home of the cars division.

When car production ceased in 1939, Rolls-Royce had no experience of bodywork. It had concentrated on chassis and engines, leaving the bodies to a number of small, specialist coach builders. With production at that

time of only 1,500 cars a year it was considered the most cost-effective method of protecting the marque's "hand built by craftsmen" image.

But it was robbing the company of a considerable added value. One of the first post-war decisions was to spend £250,000 to buy body tooling and a deal was signed with Pressed Steel Fisher to produce steel body panels.

The first car from postwar Crewe in 1946 was the Mark VI Bentley with pressed steel body work. But to keep the options open the Rolls-Royce equivalent, the Silver Wraith, had coach-built bodies by Park Ward, Mulliner and James Young.

Sir Arthur Sidgreave, then managing director, was far from happy at the possible connection in buyers' minds with inferior mass production and insisted that the pressed steel Bentley should be described as having "standardized coachwork".

Bentley and Rolls-Royce models used the same 4.2 litre engine developed from the pre-war B60. Now it had a one-piece block and crankcase casting and belt, not gear-driven, dynamo.

They were also the first of the company's cars to be fitted with the hydraulic brakes. At this stage however only on the front wheels.

Britain, almost bankrupted by the war, sorely needed export earnings and the Government put pressure on the motor industry to fill the gap. Rolls-Royce cars were already a byword in America where they had been sold

The main event in the 1960s was the appearance of the controversial Silver Shadow — the first Rolls-Royce without a chassis. Traditionalists regarded this an unacceptable compromise between craftsmanship and mass production. They refused to accept that it pro-

duced a stronger, better car despite its automatic height control and four-wheel disc braking powered by two high-pressure hydraulic systems.

Today, the Silver Shadow is widely regarded as among the greatest and most successful of all Rolls-Royce cars.

The 1970s were worrying years for Crewe. Development costs for the RB211 aero-engine got out of hand and forced the parent company into receivership and later voluntary liquidation.

In the meantime, the Receiver had separated the car and diesel engine divisions from the aircraft business and in May 1973 Rolls-Royce Motors Ltd became a public company.

Two events dominate the story of Crewe in the 1980s. First, Rolls-Royce Motors became part of the Vickers group and the then managing director of Rolls-Royce Motors, Mr (now Sir) David Plastow went on to become chairman of Vickers. Second, the Silver Spirit replaced the Silver Shadow. Nearly 36,000 Silver Shadows and Bentley T series cars had been built in the preceding 14 years.

In 1985 another milestone was reached — the company's 100,000th car.



Memories: Mr Williamson, left, and Mr Dyson relive the past since before the First World War.



A row of houses? No, the Rolls-Royce plant in wartime mufti to fool potential bombers, 1939



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ROLLS-ROYCE MOTOR
CARS IN CREWE/3

The magical blend of styling and engineering that put the two world-famous marques in a class of their own

Elegance backed by the thrust of power

The present range of cars consists of three Rolls-Royce models — the Silver Spirit, the longer-bodied Silver Spur and the Corniche Convertible — and four Bentleys — The Eight, Mulsanne S, Turbo R and the Continental. The 140-mph Turbo R is the ultimate "no compromise" luxury sports saloon and because of its unique effect on the company's changing image is dealt with in a separate article.

The Silver Spirit was introduced in 1980 to replace the Silver Shadow II. In line with Rolls-Royce's long-established policy of evolution rather than revolution it has been subjected to progressive refinement ever since.

But it still retains the essential Rolls-Royce look with its flowing lines dominated by that instantly identifiable radiator and Flying Lady mascot.

Another Rolls-Royce feature which marks it down as something special is the refusal to compromise its coachbuilders' origins by accepting the design limitations imposed by the normally all-powerful computer. The high tailed-low nose wedge is not for Rolls-Royce. Its stylists have deliberately kept the nose up with a vertical rather than sloping radiator so that the car "holds its head high proudly proclaiming its origin".

The Silver Spirit was made to look much lower and wider than its predecessor by clever emphasis of some lines and the masking of others.

There are many other ways in which Rolls-Royce have preserved their exclusivity. Other cars have leather-covered seats, but none use 12 carefully matched cowhides. Others have deep pile carpets, but not Kidderminster made Wilton.

It is the same with the distinctive burr walnut trim which others with pretensions to greatness have copied. In a Rolls-Royce it looks like hand-crafted wood. Rivals like Mercedes somehow manage to make wood look like plastic.

It is, alas, no longer true that the loudest noise in a Rolls-Royce comes from the clock. Electronics have replaced the mechanical "tick".

Ease of driving is a must for the man

who can afford a Crewe-made car. That is when little touches like the electrically powered seat adjustment come into their own. It is child's play to make yourself comfortable behind the wheel with the help of the multi-plans control switch.

The legendary 6.75 litre, V8 engine with Bosch fuel injection powers the whole range in varying stages of tune. There were some who grumbled when the pinnacle of British engineering excellence went to Germany for both fuel injection and ABS anti-lock brakes. The same people had been unhappy earlier when the Crewe engineers turned to General Motors of America for automatic transmission.

The factory's answer is: "We go for the best wherever it is made. If there are two equally good suppliers then of course we choose British".

While Silver Spirit is the best-seller in Britain, in the US it is the longer-bodied Silver Spur. It is only some 4in longer but even in a car measuring nearly 18ft

such that the air-conditioning quickly gives the car a saloon-like ambience.

Corniche starts out in life as a floor pan delivered to Rolls-Royce's coach-building subsidiary, Mulliner Park Ward, London. The body panels are fashioned by hand and the completed shell returned to Crewe for fitting out. It then returns to MPW for completion. The whole process takes five months.

The revival of the famous Bentley marque in recent years — sales now rival those of Rolls-Royce — follows a decision by the board to emphasise the more sporting role and reputation of one of the great names in car racing.

The target is the younger executive who shies away from the staid chauffeur-driven image conveyed by a Rolls-Royce. The entry-level model — if one can apply a term more applicable to mass-produced cars to a Bentley — is the Straight Eight. Its price reflects the move to widen the potential market. At £67,187 it is £10,640 less than the Silver Spirit. But this is by no means a "Poor Man's Rolls-Royce". It uses the same engine and gearbox, has the same top quality hide upholstery, walnut veneer trim, Wilton carpeting, air-conditioning and ABS anti-lock brakes.

Until the company has the luxury of a separate body for Bentley models — and it will come sooner rather than later — it has to make do with a distinctive front appearance. This is achieved with a Bentley-only radiator complete with a most un-Crewe like mesh grille, alloy wheels and small, twin headlamps.

Next up the range at £75,569 is the Bentley Mulsanne S complete with the keen driver's tachometer, leather-covered steering wheel and long centre console which brings a host of controls within easy reach of the left hand.

Most expensive of all is the £106,419 Bentley Continental open tourer. The only two-door Bentley, it is hand-built at MPW, as is the Rolls-Royce Corniche.

Rolls-Royce is reluctant to disclose the output of the now more powerful, fuel-injected V8 but it is generally accepted that all models — with the exception of the much faster Bentley Turbo R — will accelerate from 0 to 60mph in about nine seconds and top 130 mph.



Silver Spirit's luxurious interior

those few inches make a lot of difference to rear-seat comfort.

External differences are subtle. There is a special roof material, wheel discs with fine, hand-painted lines, a brushed stainless steel backing panel for the rear number plate, and a badge on the boot lid.

A cellular telephone is hidden discreetly in the front armrest with the aerial in the rear screen.

The Corniche is the head-turning, classic open tourer. It has become an established favourite wherever the climate favours open-air motoring but careful attention to weather protection in the fitting and construction of the hood have given it an even wider appeal. When the electrically powered hood is raised and locked into position the fit is



The Silver Spur, Rolls-Royce's bestseller in the US



The Rolls-Royce Corniche 11, the head-turning, classic open tourer



The Bentley Turbo R: Answers drivers' criticisms



The Bentley Mulsanne S, no 2 in the range at £75,569

Turbo adds that zing to the Bentley image

To have discussed the future of the Bentley marque in 1976 would have been a brief and depressing task for anyone with a sense of pride in the once-glorious name, writes Daniel Ward.

The "Bentleys" leaving Crewe were simply Rolls-Royce Silver Shadows with the Silver Lady emblem and angular stainless steel radiator replaced by a more rounded one and discreet badges displaying the initial "B". Customers were barely impressed by such badge-engineering; it did little to continue the sporting heritage of cars that in the 1920s and 1930s had won the Le Mans 24-hour race five times.

In the 30 years since the Second World War, Bentley had seen its share of the Crewe production of the two marques decline from more than 90 per cent to less than 4 per cent.

Today the picture could not be more different. In the first four months of 1988, Bentley out-sold R-R in Britain. In Europe and the Middle East markets in 1987 Bentley accounted for almost 44 per cent of sales. Indeed, since the early-1980s world recession, Bentley models which have provided the growth at Crewe.

The turbocharged model has provided the basis for the revival of Bentley and established its reputation as the ultimate luxury sporting name in motoring. Though the Bentley Mulsanne was launched alongside its R-R Silver Spirit sister in 1980, it was not until 1982 that Bentleys had anything distinctive to offer.

At the Geneva motor show that year the Bentley Mulsanne Turbo made its debut. It had 50 per cent more power than the normally aspirated 6.75-litre V8 first made in 1959. The turbo could accelerate to 60mph from standstill in seven seconds despite its two-ton girth. The top speed was governed to 135mph.

Yet for all the latest Bentley's refined turbo performance, the model's sporting

credentials were not unflawed. The suspension remained unchanged from that of the ordinary Spirit. Peter Ward, chief executive, comments wryly: "When the car went round corners it polished the door handles."

While Crewe's engineering team tackled the task of making the Mulsanne handle like a sporting saloon, the Bentley Eight was launched in 1984 to keep up the marque's marketing momentum. A cheap car by Crewe's standards — even today it costs a realistic £59,968 — it was intended to appeal to owners of expensive Mercedes and Porsche cars who would shy away from the "gentlemen's club" image of a Rolls-Royce.

By 1985 the chassis of the top-of-the-range Bentley had been transformed with the debut of the Turbo R which replaced the Mulsanne Turbo. The steering was no longer feather-weight and springs and dampers had been made a great deal firmer. With Bentley alloy wheels and massive low-profile tyres, the new car looked more sporting.

On the road the Turbo R answered almost all the criticisms drivers had levelled against the previous models. It was later given fuel injection and anti-lock brakes.

The Turbo R's development has allowed all Bentleys to be made more sporting in character than the Rolls-Royce. The Mulsanne S has the turbo R suspension with the aspirated engine (£69,972 compared with £84,966 for the Turbo R) and the Eight also has firmer handling.

Last year the Turbo R accounted for 29 per cent of Crewe's total production, and almost one third were sold in Britain.

This performance is set to improve with its launch a week ago of the \$148,000 Turbo R on the US market, where at least 150 customers are expected to take delivery each year of the machine.

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The men who craft perfection



Jim Wilson, wood-veneer cutter: The brittle veneer arrives in dusty colourless bundles and ends up as a thing of beauty

Craft skills are the heart and soul of Rolls-Royce, said Peter Ward, chief executive. He added: "They made this famous old company what it is today and they will continue to play a vital part in its future. Of course they will increasingly live alongside new technology like computerization but their unique contribution will never be sacrificed for expediency."

Mr Ward, 42, one of the youngest bosses in the motor industry, sums up the contribution of men like Dennis Jones, 50, a sheetmetal worker at Crewe for over 18 years, writes Clifford Webb.

In the age of mass production, robots and cheap synthetic materials Mr Jones makes the instantly recognizable Rolls-Royce radiator shell entirely by hand. Each one takes a day and when it is completed is "signed" by the maker. His mark is a "DD" stamped near the retaining hole for the Spirit of Ecstasy, the mascot that tops every R-R radiator.

But more than personal pride that motivates the 10-man team in the radiator shop. They are responsible for a radiator throughout its entire life. If it needs to be returned to the factory, it ends up on the workbench of the man who made it.

Each of the 11 pieces of top-quality stainless steel that form the shell are rolled to bow them slightly before they are soldered together by

hand using traditional copper soldering irons heated by gas.

Why solder? Why gas? Why not use a modern argon arc welding or brazing? Mr Jones says: "With solder we have a much more controlled heat that avoids distortion, and we can achieve a joint line no thicker than a human hair. The joint is white and blends with the metal, becoming almost invisible during five hours of polishing which finishes every radiator."

Jim Wilson, 42, has been a veneer-cutter for 14 years. To watch him at work is to appreciate the loving way he handles the

The wood is specially selected - mostly the famous walnut burr

brittle, thin veneer which arrives in dusty, colourless bundles and ends up as a thing of beauty on the fascia and door trims of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars.

The brittleness is overcome by the simple process of wetting it. Almost instantly it comes to life in Mr Wilson's hands for the long process of cutting and matching by eye. The whorls and configurations are stopped out and stained, inspected, primed and then dried for 60 hours.

Next they are sprayed with three coats of tough polyurethane lacquer, air-dried for three days, hand-

flatted, polished and carefully inspected yet again.

The wood is specially selected from the bowl of the tree - the part under ground - and is mostly the famous walnut burr. This is the standard veneer but Crewe cars are nothing if not built to individual customer tastes and alternatives include plain walnut, birds-eye maple and elm. The latter has become particularly popular in the past year.

The eight men in the veneer shop turn out 50 car sets a week. Inevitably there are comparisons with other car-makers who grace their cars with wood veneer. Mercedes and Jaguar are the two best-known names.

Brian Foster, 53, is foreman of the trim shop and responsible for fitting-out. Every model leaving Crewe is built to a specific order which makes it unique. This covers the colour and piping trim of the 260 sq ft of finest Connolly leather.

"We can't afford to have a single stitch out of place. Our customers pay a fortune because of our reputation for the finest craftsmanship in the world. Our aim in life is to ensure that they never find anything to fuss about," he says.

Mr Foster joined the company from school as the result of a school visit to the factory. "I didn't like office work. I loved working with my hands. There are a lot of people here with the same need to express themselves by hand," he says.

The long endeavour to share out £85m



Brian Dickie, director, purchasing: We want the best

"Supplier to Rolls-Royce" is the most sought-after letter-heading in the motor component world. It is also the most difficult to obtain. Not only are Rolls-Royce standards almost impossibly high but no supplier is allowed to advertise the fact until he has satisfied those standards for several years, writes Clifford Webb.

Even then his contract requires him to obtain permission from Crewe before he can reveal his connection publicly.

"We cannot have our name used in any but the most carefully vetted circumstances," says Brian Dickie, director of purchasing.

Becoming a supplier in the first place is a lengthy process. Each new applicant's manufacturing process is personally inspected. At the same time he is investigated to establish his commercial standing and financial well-being.

At the end of all this he is given an SQA (Supplier Quality Assurance) rating of A or B. The A rating is the toughest in the motor industry but even then does not exclude holders from regular inspection.

The factory fosters a special relationship with suppliers by inviting them to Crewe at intervals to see where their components are actually fitted

out is the man who is ultimately responsible for the quality of the wood trim - the wood shop foreman.

Until a couple of years ago all the Crewe veneer came from Italy. But Italy was not the actual source, only a middle man supplied from the US, and that was not good enough for Rolls-Royce.

Mr Dickie says that wherever possible he likes to have long-term contracts with suppliers. "Provided they keep their quality up it is good for them and good for us. We can both make the best use of limited investment."

Many suppliers grew up with Crewe. Some began their association as suppliers of parts for the wartime aero-engines produced there.

There is no shortage of would-be suppliers. But Mr Dickie is looking closer to home for new suppliers. Recently he invited firms around Crewe to tender for more of the £85 million components used each year. Only £2 million goes to local firms at present.

Peter Ward, Rolls-Royce chief executive, is chairman of Crewe Development Agency, which was set up early this year with a £1 million grant from British Rail Engineering Ltd after redundancies at Crewe locomotive works.



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It takes 12 to 14 hides for a single car and even more when a customer specifies a leather roof-lining.

Wood veneer is so crucial to the interior splendour of a Rolls-Royce that twice a year a two-man team from Crewe goes to the United States to negotiate direct with growers for supplies. One of those sent

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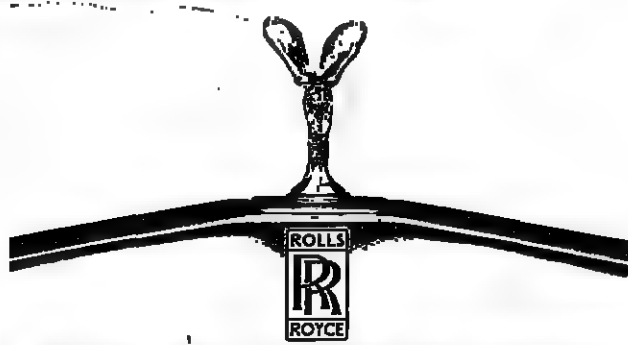
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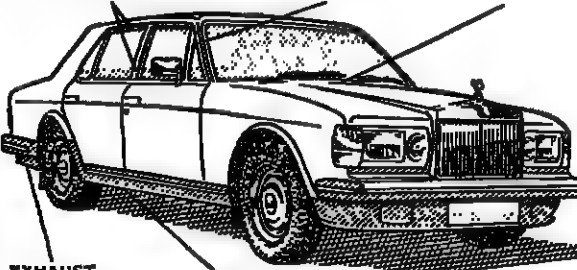
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ROLLS-ROYCE MOTOR
CARS IN CREWE/5Why Bentley has to
keep you waiting

If you place an order now for a Rolls-Royce Corniche or Bentley Turbo R, you will be lucky if it is delivered in time for Christmas 1989, writes Clifford Webb. Other models in the range are a little easier to obtain. You could get a Silver Spirit for instance in six to seven months' time.

That has been the position for some time now so why does not the factory increase production from the 2,700 it made and sold last year?

Peter Ward, chief executive, says: "We are increasing production but we have to walk a tightrope between more sales and maintaining our exclusivity. We must never again get into the over-supply situation which hit us a few years ago and led to the first discounting ever of our cars."

At the same time he is adamant that long delivery times is not of itself the key to the company's future.

"But," he says, "we must

also reorganize our production to give greater flexibility to respond to demand, without saddling ourselves with expensive excess capacity."

Mr Ward, who joined the company in 1983 from the Peugeot/Talbot group as sales and marketing director, was the first executive in the history of the company to be given worldwide responsibility for sales and marketing. He was appointed managing director in October 1986 and chief executive in April 1987. He brought a new dynamism to the business of selling Rolls-Royces and Bentleys, which some suggested would be wasted in a company whose products sold themselves.

That sort of thinking, Mr Ward says, is why Rolls-Royce has in some senses been making time. "We must keep moving forward and that means creating new cars and finding new markets," he says. "The Rolls-Royce motor car will become an anachronism

only if we expect customers to beat a path to our door."

Crucial to the marketing of an already unique product is the extent to which the factory will go to meet a customer's specific requirements. On the "standard" car he can already choose the type of wood veneer, colour matching and materials for interior trim — all set down in the "history book" which accompanies every car from Day One of the production process. After it leaves the production line a car may be taken to a separate department for extensive additional alterations and fittings.

These include: compact disc players, TVs with video and teletext facilities, cocktail cabinets, picnic tables and even fax machines. A wide selection of curtains can be installed, popular in hot climates such as the Middle East.

A relatively new marketing play for Rolls-Royce is the advent of model year changes,

for so long an important sales tool for the motor industry in general but largely ignored by Rolls-Royce. Mr Ward says: "Americans and to some extent middle-eastern customers are constantly looking for the very latest in their cars and tend to update more frequently than in the UK. We now tailor our cars for specific markets far more than we have done in the past."

Another marketing tool which he is still honing is the promotion of Bentley as a car in its own right and not simply an alternative to Rolls-Royce.

The question everyone wants answered is: When will Bentley have its own body? Mr Ward says in a small company like his it takes anything up to 17 years to amortize the cost of tooling for a new body. The present one was only introduced in 1981.

He comments: "The most I can say further to that is we are looking to the mid-1990s for the next major change."

Special service
for a very
rare breed

Rolls-Royce owners are a special breed and they demand special service for their cars, writes Clifford Webb. Though the company's dealers throughout the world are carefully chosen and their mechanics trained to factory set standards, some owners still insist on returning their cars to Crewe for major overhauls and repairs.

Says Mike Bond, the assistant service manager: "This factory has such a special relationship with the people who buy our cars that they seem to endow us with almost mystical qualities. For them it is the factory or nothing." A sort of "back to mother" feeling.

For that reason alone the service department at Crewe is one of the last of its kind in the motor industry. Most car-makers shut their doors long ago, preferring instead to keep their dealers happy by leaving profitable repairs and service to them.

Crewe insists that it is not competing with its dealers but meeting a unique need. The extent of this need is emphasised by the costly lengths owners go to to return their cars to Crewe.

Those from European countries are usually driven to the factory and left while their owners enjoy a holiday or fly

in and out with the help of a chauffeur-driven car from the factory. A Belgian owner brings his car over twice a year for routine servicing.

But cars from faraway places like India, Hong Kong, Thailand, Nigeria, the Middle East and North America are shipped in their own containers denying their use to owners for many months.

More than 50 per cent of Rolls-Royces and Bentleys ever made are still in use, so many of the cars shipped to Crewe are up to 50 years old. Work is now being carried out there on Silver Clouds, Shadowns, Spirits and even a Mark VI Bentley, the first car built at Crewe. "We get two or three of those every year," says Mr Bond.

There are 68 employees in the service department including staff. Many of them, including a hard core of veteran specialists, have worked at Rolls-Royce since they left school and are known to customers personally. Men like Ron Reader, Peter Griffiths, Ray Latham and Tony Amson.

It has a reputation within the company of being one of the happiest teams in the factory and this is borne out by the fact that the only people who leave seem to do so for promotion.



Mike Bond, assistant service manager Rolls-Royce and Bentleys are sent from faraway places for servicing

The super-chauffeur goes to school



Alec Brown: lessons in trouble-shooting

Rolls-Royce and Bentley owners worldwide expect a lot more from their local dealer than they would if they had bought any other make of car, writes Clifford Webb. They expect instant expertise on all aspects of running and maintaining the cars.

You cannot buy that sort of expertise locally. The most highly qualified garage mechanic still has much to learn about such a complex product. To meet this need, Crewe has its School of Instruction, covering all aspects of dealer training from courses at the factory to courses in places as far apart as the Middle East,

Australia, Hong Kong, Japan and the US.

Alec Brown, one of the school's most experienced instructors, says: "We start from the premise that we are handling highly qualified people. With slide projections and other visual aids, backed up by practical demonstrations on the cars themselves, we show them such key things as how the fuel-injection system works and how to trouble-shoot in general."

Chairman Mao had his little red book and so had Rolls-Royce, at least it did until quite recently when

someone decided to change the colour to grey. In the latter's case however it is an instruction book for chauffeurs. Red copies simply labelled *Rolls-Royce Chauffeurs* have become sought-after collectors' items. The grey version needs more room for its title — *Rolls-Royce and Bentley Chauffeurs Handbook*. But driving a Rolls-Royce skillfully with a VIP in the back is much too important to leave entirely to the written word — and it is not. Crewe's chauffeur courses have become a by-word in the motoring world.

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FOR PEOPLE WITH DRIVE

Fiat pulls a fast one on its rivals

**Test report: Italy's
stylish new Tipo is
a practical five-seater
with good pulling
power and few vices**

A 6ft driver has an abundance of legroom, and rear-seat passengers have 3in more knee space than in a Golf. The boot is among the biggest in its class and the Fiat's rear seat has a useful split-folding backrest on all versions.

A salesman's opening gambit is hardly likely to focus on how wide the doors open yet the importance of such things becomes obvious as you struggle with armfuls of shopping or a weighty baby safety seat while an impatient six-month-old is getting drenched in a downpour. Tipo's big doors swine

Nothing is perfect though, and it is difficult to place the owner's handbook in the door bins without fouling the window winder. On the cheapest 1.4 litre model, the small glovebox is rendered

Practicality implies the lasting qualities of an old garden wheelbarrow left out in all weathers, which together with the difficulty of convincing the public that your cars no longer go rusty, spurred Fiat to use galvanized steel for 70 per cent of the Tipo's body.



Practical style: taller and wider than an Escort, yet shorter than a Golf, the Tipo 1.4 is nicely roomy inside.

The Tipo has a good spread of power, pulling better in the gears than faster-sprinting rivals. Top speed for the 1.4 is 100mph and acceleration to 60mph takes 13.5 seconds. Modern engines should

Owners should achieve better than 35 miles per gallon, which is average for the Escort class where on economy there is little to choose between models.

The clutch and handbrake are light and the brakes have an excellent firm feel, painfully absent on past Fiats.

It seems unkind to describe the 1.4 Tipo tested here as the basic model as it has a tasteful tweed trim, four-speaker stereo outfit, split rear folding seat and rear wash/wipe as standard.

For £590 more the awfully named DGT model has electronic instruments, normally a mixed blessing but in this case acceptable, central door-locking, electric front windows, tinted glass and an adjustable steering column.

Tinted glass is a worthy feature as the Tipo's ventilation is mediocre, though the blower fan is relatively quiet.

The Tipo is made in one of the world's most automated factories, designed to ensure the highest levels of quality and reliability. Fiat reasons that because a robot has built most of the car and then tested it, right down to pressing the switches, it should not go wrong in out-of-the-way places. Combined with an excellent modern design the Tipo could not have had a better start in life.

Head-up display is safer

Head-up displays, used on aircraft provide the pilot with information on everything from missile guidance to navigation and are claimed to improve safety and operator response by eliminating the need to look down at instruments.

“It was surprising how aware you became of the car’s speed.”

On the system developed by Hughes Aircraft for General Motors, the vehicle speed is seen by the driver as a digital hologram apparently suspended in line with the front bumper of the car.

A brief road test in an Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme was fascinating. It was surprising how aware you become of the car's speed. Clearly, we agree

One fear with the system is that it can be distracting, but it was no problem getting used to the green-coloured digital speed displayed "in front" of the windscreen.

The display can also inform the driver when the turning indicators are on and provide any warnings of faults. It does not replace the conventional instruments mounted on the facia

Despite the use of advanced optical technology, GM claims head-up displays are cheaper than some existing electronic instruments and expect it to cost less than £60.

Nissan has just launched a coupé model in Japan with a head-up display, though it requires a small area of the glass to be chemically treated to project the image correctly. This sums up a patch on the windshield.

The art of driving backwards

when it rained and conditions were soggy.

Backing a trailer is an art. I had been practising secretly for a week, but my confidence was not high. The problem is that a novice trailer-backer can be spotted at several furlongs and advice may come from several directions.

My former neighbour advised: "Take it slowly and just imagine that the steering wheel is turning the trailer's rear wheels. It was sound advice but out there in the gymkhana car park there was a feeling that

Life was made more difficult in those early days by my insistence that a convertible Triumph TR7 was perfectly suitable for pulling the trailer. It was — if the sun shone and the road was hot. It was not if it rained.

As my daughter's riding ability developed I bought a Land Rover and a two-pony trailer. Suddenly I was a fully fledged member of the towing fraternity; feeling mildly awkward at heading a traffic queue, driving as smoothly as possible, mindful

of the effect on my four-legged friend of sharp turns and hard braking — and always ready to nip into a lay-by to let past the queue of cars behind me.

Most motorists do not appreciate the problems of towing a trailer. All they want to do is overtake, which some do with dangerous bravado. Overtakers fall into three categories: the good, the bad and the fifth-year hopefuls.

The first are a joy to behold. They overtake when it is safe to do so without drama.

The bad seem to wait for the most inopportune moment and then scuttle past like wheeled rats racing for a bothole. On one occasion my daughter shouted that the tune of a truck approaching us

And then there are the fifth-gearers, the people who amble past with a nonchalance that turns usually to white-knuckled hope.

So when towing, there is a need to make constant calculations about the speed of approaching traffic, the acceleration potential of the vehicle now starting to fill the door mirror, and the availability of an escape route.

I have also found that vehicles used for towing need large mirrors, power-steering, tight turning circles, lots of gears, plus, ideally, four-wheel drive.

And I have just discovered another desirable item: four-wheel steering. A Mazda 626 GT with four-wheel steering shows great promise of easing the burden of backing before an audience.

Incorporate all those things into one vehicle and you could be hitching your trailer to a sign of the gum-bum car park.

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THE TIMES OLYMPICS GUIDE

Continuing a sport-by-sport preview of the Games, which start tomorrow

Every reason for high hopes

From Sydney Friskin, Seoul



When Richard Dodds, Britain's captain, was asked recently who would stand on the medal rostrum at Seoul his answer was brief and to the point: "Us and two others". Dodds, who was on the victory stand at Los Angeles, where Britain won the bronze medal four years ago, believes that the side he now leads, seeded No. 2, is the best of British. "Yes", he added, "gold is attainable," and there was good reason for saying so.

In Seoul, Britain can pick almost the same side that won the silver medal for England at the 1986 World Cup in London and the same award at the European championship in Moscow a year later. In both events they came tantalizingly close to the more cherished prize.

Sean Kerly is still at the forefront as a shooter, Jan Taylor continues to rank among the world's best goalkeepers and Paul Barber has recaptured his form at striking short corners. These players together with David Faulkner, who partners Barber at full back, and Jon Potter at right half, are the linchpins of the British side.

The West Germans are the team Dodds fears most on the opposition. Their outstanding player is Carsten Fischer, a colossus among full backs, noted not only for his superb striking of short corners but also for his ability to transform defence into attack.

Floris Boelender of the Netherlands, another short corner expert, Richard Charlesworth (Australia), Shahtabz Ahmed (Pakistan), Mervyn Fernandes (India), Ignacio Escude (Spain) and Marcelo Garraffo (Argentina) are other outstanding individuals to watch out for.

At least five teams, Australia, the world champions, Pakistan, the Olympic titleholders, the Netherlands, the current European champions, West Germany, holders of the Champions' Trophy and Great Britain can all make a strong case for winning the gold medal.

The British campaign begins with a match against South Korea, the Asian Games champions, whom they beat 4-0 in the final of the invitation tournament at Ipoh, Malaysia, in June. But that was the day after the Koreans had survived a harrowing match against Pakistan in the semi-final, which went into extra time and penalty strokes. Despite their apparent naivety inside the striking circle the Koreans could be difficult to beat on home ground.



Main marksman: Sean Kerly at practice in Seoul yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Britain can all make a strong case for winning the gold medal.

The British campaign begins with a match against South Korea, the Asian Games champions, whom they beat 4-0 in the final of the invitation tournament at Ipoh, Malaysia, in June. But that was the day after the Koreans had survived a harrowing match against Pakistan in the semi-final, which went into extra time and penalty strokes. Despite their apparent naivety inside the striking circle the Koreans could be difficult to beat on home ground.

The task for Britain in their next match, against Canada, whom they have beaten twice in recent months, looks less forbidding, but there follows the most important match against the West Germans before they meet the Soviet Union, whom they also defeated at Ipoh and in Amsterdam. Finally, there is the match against India who, after finishing last in the 1986 World Cup, made everyone sit up and take notice when they won the tournament in Nairobi where they defeated Pakistan twice.

On present form Britain and West Germany should qualify for the semi-finals from this group, leaving Australia, the Netherlands and Pakistan to battle for the two remaining places in the other group, where the big dangers are Spain and Argentina. The weakest side here is Kenya, the African champions.

Of the twelve teams India have won the gold medal eight times. Pakistan on three occasions and West Germany once. England, representing Great Britain, won it in 1920 at Antwerp and before that England also won the tournament in London in 1908.

When the six women's teams were selected for the 1984 Games in Los Angeles Britain were omitted, although the consensus was that they should have been there. Even when the number of teams for Seoul was increased to eight Britain were forced to play-off for the last place with the Soviet Union. Having overcome that obstacle comfortably they have been playing with growing assurance and are now in line for a medal.

In June, Britain won the invitation tournament at Essen where, despite losing to Australia, they defeated West Germany, silver medal winners at both the Olympic Games and the World Cup. Hopes were raised further in August when, in Amsterdam, they held the world and Olympic champions, the Netherlands, to a draw. Later, they defeated West Germany twice at Luton.

Britain are grouped with the Netherlands, Argentina and the United States and have a good chance of reaching the semi-finals, much depending on the captain Barbara Hambly, Karen Brown, Violet McBride and Vicki Dixon. Australia, South Korea, Canada and West Germany make up the other group.

MEN'S TEAM
Ian Taylor, Varyan Pappas, David Faulkner, Paul Barber, Stephen Martin, Jon Taylor, Richard Dodds (captain), Marilyn Grenley, Stephen Batchelor, Richard Lemaire, James McLeod, Kuba Bena, Sean Kerly, Robert Cliff, Imran Sherwani, Russell Garcia, Manager: Roger Sell, Coach: David Whitaker.

WOMEN'S TEAM
Jill Atkins, Wendy Banks, Gillian Brown, Karen Brown, Mary West, Julie Cook, Vicki Dixon, Wendy Fraser, Barbara Hambly (captain), Caroline Jordan, Violet McBride, Maura McLeod, Caroline Stewart, Jane Strathairn, Kate Parker, Alison Ramsay, Manager: DI Battenham, Coach: Dennis Hay.

MEN'S PROGRAMME
Sept 18: GB v Korea (6.15 am) Sept 20: GB v Canada (midnight), Sept 22: GB v West Germany (midnight), Sept 24: GB v Soviet Union (6.30 am), Sept 26: GB v India (4.30 am), Sept 28: Semi-finals (4.30 am and 6.15 am), Oct 1: Final (8.15 am).

WOMEN'S PROGRAMME
Sept 21: GB v Argentina (midnight), Sept 23: GB v Netherlands (1.45 am), Sept 25: GB v Australia (midnight), Sept 27: Semi-finals (4.30 am and 6.15 am), Sept 30: Final (8.15 am).

BRITISH SQUAD
MEN: Coxed four: Adam Cliff (cox), John May, John Garnett, Martin Cross, Richard Dodds (cox), Coxed pair: Andrew Holmes, Steven Redgrave (cox), Coxed pair: Andrew Holmes, Steven Redgrave (cox), Pair: Patrick Sweeney (cox), Coxed four: Mark Suckingham (cox), Stephen Peel, Simon Berrington, Peter Mulcahy (cox), Eight: Richard Stanhope (cox), Sarah Harrison, Peter Beaumont, Gavin Stewart, Terence Dillon, Anton Chibrikov, Steven Turner, Nicholas Buritt (cox), Simon Jerrard (cox), Substitutes: Johnathan Spencer-Jones (cox, side), Matthew Britton (stroke, side).

WOMEN: Coxed four: Fiona Johnston (cox), Katherine Grove, Joanne Gough, Susan Smith (stroke), Alison Norrish (cox), Coxed pair: Alison Bonner, Kim Thomas (stroke), Double scull: (Provisional entry: double scull and substitutes), Fiona Johnston (cox), Alison Bonner, Sally Andrews, Alison Gill, Joanna Gough, Katherine Grove, Kim Thomas, Susan Smith (stroke), Alison Norrish (cox).

PROGRAMME
September 18: Draw, 18: Heat: Section A: Women: Coxed four, double scull and coxed pairs, Matt Coxed four, double scull, coxed pairs and single sculls, 20: Heat: Section B: Women: Single scull, quadruple scull and eight, Matt Coxed pairs, coxed four, quadruple scull and eight, 21: Repechage, 22: Semi-finals, 23: Final.

Eastern bloc return puts gymnasts in the cold

British church mice await Soviet claws



In its way, gymnastics is the classic British Olympic sport. Once every four years, we become interested. Once every four years we turn our attention to people like Karen Hargate and Andrew Morris.

Once every four years, we revel in the honed performances of the world's top gymnasts, and then we have a quadrennial whinge about why the British have not won any medals.

Well, we are not going to win any this time. Morris wants above all things to win a place in the first 36, which sounds as if he is setting his sights incredibly low. In fact, he is doing quite the opposite: he was 24th in Los Angeles in 1984, but this time the first team are being sent in against him: this time the Soviets and the rest of the eastern bloc oppose him.

For Hargate, a medal is about as likely as a plane ticket home via Alpha Centauri. She is all but 16 years old, round about the peak for a female gymnast, and she does her training in a deconsecrated church.

Her gymnastic club paid £200 for it, it eats £2,000 a year in gas, and it is still freezing cold. Gymnasts love heat: it helps a body to be supple. Cold can break bones under gymnastic stresses. The church is a bit on the small side as well, there is not enough room to perform a full floor exercise. Hargate has the luxury once a month, when she trains with the British team.

She manages to fit in three hours training a day, which is a lot by British standards, but not much as far as the world of top flight gymnastics goes. Morris is a venerable old fellow, aged 26, and he teaches gym for a living. His own training has to take second place to that.

In one way of thinking, this is ridiculous. If Morris had been a Soviet, he would have started gymnastics at six or seven, not at 11. Hargate and Morris would both be training six hours and more a day: cosseted items of national prestige.

But instead, they are both here in Seoul doomed for failure. And I applaud that. "Our youngsters are getting better all the time," said Terry Bartlett, another member of the British team, and no youngster himself, aged 25. "But the rest of the world isn't waiting for us to catch up."

Simon Barnes

While the United States were contending yesterday with an injury to one of their leading three-day event horses, John McEwen, one of the two British team veterinary surgeons reported that the 17 British mounts were "competition fit".

This includes Jo Turf's Kruger, who has overcome a foot infection and Virginia Leng's Master Craftman - who has recovered after a fall in practice on Wednesday.

The injured American horse is Jane Sleeper's Out on Business who has a suspected strained tendon and will almost certainly miss the three-day event competition which begins on Monday. Although the team, the defending gold medal winners, have plenty of reserve horses, Out on Business was reckoned to be one of their best.

He finished third behind Bruce Davidson's two horses at the final selection trial in May.

Davidson is in the happy position of having both horses, Dr Peaches and J J Babu, on form. He will decide after today's course walk which to ride. His show jumping competitor, Joe Farago, the defending individual gold medal winner, has a similar choice to make between Touch of Class, on whom he won his medal, and the younger Mill Pearl.

The facilities for the horses at the newly-built Seoul Equestrian Park are excellent. After the Olympics the park is to be officially opened as a racecourse - replacing the existing one at Tuksom. There is stabling for 1,500 horses, seven dressage and jumping exercise arenas, an equine clinic, laboratory, farrier station and equine swimming pool.

The only drawback is the shortage of grass - as anticipated by the British who have brought out special grass making machines.

Laurie Lawrence, the Australian coach, said the "Aussie coaches" were tougher and another than conventional ones. "It's a very light, flexible fabric, very body-hugging - like a seaskin," he said. "It's just an innovation, like the fibre-glass pole in the pole-vault, the winged keel in the America's Cup and the graphite wheel in cycling."

Whether Davis can reverse his own poor form this season, though, is arguable. He failed to make the Canadian team at his Olympic title distance, and over 100 metres is nearly a second slower this year than the Briton.

What perhaps made that reversal worse, however, was that Moorhouse's closest rival, Victor Davis, the Canadian who won the 200 metres breaststroke at the last Olympics, was promoted to the gold.

In the nearest thing to a concession that Davis has made to Moorhouse's ability, yesterday he admitted that the Yorkshireman is favourite for gold in Seoul. "Sure, but I think I can beat him. I've beaten him before."

Whether Davis can reverse his own poor form this season, though, is arguable. He failed to make the Canadian team at his Olympic title distance, and over 100 metres is nearly a second slower this year than the Briton.

British men are no longer in awe

By Jim Railton

In the Olympic regatta women will race the standard 2,000 metres for the first time next week and final will be spread over two days enabling competitors to risk doubling up. Fentri Karpinen, of Finland, will seek an unprecedented fourth consecutive gold medal in the single sculls. Alf Hansen, of Norway, now aged 40, also seeks a victory in the quadruple sculls 12 years after his Olympic victory in double sculls in Montreal in 1976.

The Seoul regatta already threatens to throw up a number of unpredictable winners, although the eastern bloc countries should dominate in the six women's events. Some form guide came at the Lucerne international regatta in July, but in the interim many crews will have been changed or strengthened and unseen combinations from the United States and Canada will emerge.

East Germany and New Zealand will concentrate on the smaller boats.

Great Britain's five-boater men's team is arguably their strongest entered for an Olympic regatta with all boats in proven final class with an outside possibility of four medals. But there remains a large question mark over Steve Redgrave and Andy Holmes who are entered for the coxed and coxless pairs. They are among the Olympic champions at coxed fours and last year won the world coxed pairs title and the silver in the coxed pairs. This season nothing has gone right for Redgrave and Holmes. A virus laid them low early in the season, after that there were signs of staleness and fatigue; training programmes were retarded and they were defeated in the Essen international. To compound Holmes' season of woe he injured a rib, forcing their withdrawal from the Henley Royal regatta and Lucerne.

But Redgrave and Holmes have a reservoir of talent and experience backed by the

expertise of Mike Spracklen, their coach. If they have at last patched their act together then they will again be a force to be feared. No doubt Dr Simon Holmes, Andy's brother, and the team's first psychologist, will be busy. The top coxed pair this season are Daput Dobre and Drago Neagu, the Romanians.

The British crews, who have impressed this season are the British men's coxed four and the eight. Both have grown in strength. The coxed four, in their inaugural international season, finished fourth in the world championship last year just a length short of a medal. This year they won the Stewards' at Henley, finished second at Lucerne just 0.68sec behind the East German world champions, but ahead of last year's silver and bronze medal winners from the Soviet Union and the United States.

The British men's eight carved their niche at Henley by coming from behind to win the Grand by one foot and beat the Australian 1986 world champions. In Lucerne, they finished

behind West Germany, the top European crew this year, and a Soviet Union eight, but ahead of Canada, the United States and again, Australia. The British men's coxed four are enigmatic, yet if they can fully harness their experience could be in the frame too.

The single sculls final will be the highlight of the regatta as Karpinen, in his mid-thirties, seeks his fourth successive gold medal. He strikes late and decisively in the last 250m. In the field is Peter-Michael Kolbe, West Germany's six-time world champion, and twice Olympic runner-up to the Finn. However, the dominant force in the single sculls this season has been Thomas Lange, the 1985 world champion in double sculls, of East Germany.

PROGRAMME
September 18: Draw, 18: Heat: Section A: Women: Coxed four, double scull and coxed pairs, Matt Coxed four, double scull, coxed pairs and single sculls, 20: Heat: Section B: Women: Single scull, quadruple scull and eight, Matt Coxed pairs, coxed four, quadruple scull and eight, 21: Repechage, 22: Semi-finals, 23: Final.

TOMORROW in the special Olympic issue of *The Times*: athletics, swimming, equestrianism and tennis

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Medal hopes improve as Mahony passed fit

From John Goodbody

Britain's considerable chances of winning a medal in the team modern pentathlon improved yesterday when Dominic Mahony was passed fit for the five-day competition which begins on Sunday.

Mahony, sixth in last year's world championships, damaged his right knee in leaping off a horse last month and the joint will be fully tested in the day-long fencing competition on Monday. Both a medial ligament and a cartilage have been affected and as Mahony leads with his right knee in the epee, there is a constant risk of further injury. The pentathlete is particularly skilled at this event being British champion in 1986.

Ron Bright, the team manager, insisted yesterday that Mahony "could go into action today if required to do so" but there must be a question mark over the injury. Only constant work by the British Olympic Association medical team has assured his participation.

A modern pentathlon, in which Britain won a celebrated Olympic victory in 1976, is a notoriously difficult event to predict because of the hazards of horse riding and pistol shooting. Bright considers that the gap has narrowed between Britain and its rivals.

P Phelps, who lost the Olympic title in Los Angeles because of a disastrous shoot of 184 out of 200, can get 100 or close to that score in the riding, then a medal is certainly possible.

Britain finished third in both the world and European championships last year, but Bright considers that the gap has narrowed between Britain and its rivals.

Phelps has had psychological advice to help him get over his nervousness in shooting. In Los Angeles many of his rivals used beta-blockers, which have now been banned by the International Olympic Committee, although competitors may have found other drugs which are still not proscribed to calm their nerves.

Bright says: "I have led the fight against doping since 1972. I think we have succeeded but I am not certain that we have won the war."

All clear

Three Israeli boxers were given clearance yesterday to compete in Seoul pending a decision whether to suspend the Israeli Boxing Federation because of a recent tour to South Africa. Anwar Chowdhry, president of the International Amateur Boxing Association, said: "Until the decision is made on suspension these three can take part in the Games."

Archers in record form

Britain's archers took their first look at the Hwarang archery field near Seoul yesterday, brimming with confidence after smashing eight British records between them at an international competition in Italy.

Joanne Franks, from Thetford, Norfolk, captured four British bests while the team - Franks, Cheryl Sutton (Norwich), and Pauline Edwards (Epsom) - broke two more records to win the team event ahead of a Soviet trio.

Steve Hallard, Britain's No. 1 men's archer, from Rugby, set national marks in two more disciplines.

David Clarke, the team manager, said: "It was an excellent trip and we couldn't have had a better boost."

Countries boycotting Olympics will be welcome to change their minds until the last day of the Games, Park Seh-jik, president of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee, said yesterday. The last event a competitor could enter is the men's marathon on October 2.

RACING

Glencroft to lead cup rivals a merry dance

By Mandarin

Glencroft can set the seal on a remarkable season for himself and his trainer, David Chapman, by landing the Ladbroke's Cup at the premier Scottish track this afternoon.

Since winning at Haydock on the last day of June, the Skillington-trained four-year-old has gone from strength to strength and his latest victory at York 16 days ago was his seventh of the campaign. Golden Ancona (second), Daws Delight (sixth) and Profile (last but one) are all held on that York form.

Arguably, though, his finest efforts have come in defeat when carrying 23lb more than his long handicap weight into second place behind Rotherfield Greys in the Stewards' Cup in July and again when second to Roman Prose in last week's Portland Handicap.

Powder Blue, 1½ lengths behind Glencroft in third at Doncaster, re-appears here on 3lb worse terms as do Derwent Valley, Chaplins Club, Profile, Swing Lucky and Fourwalk who were further adrift.

Chaplins Club has also contributed seven victories to Chapman's tally of 29 this season, the eight-year-old's successes coming in a nine-race 18-day spell in his second year, it would be a fair ninth at Doncaster in his first, it would be

unwise to dismiss this hardy veteran but he may have to settle for place money now that he has been reassessed for his mid-season victory march.

Of the remainder, I have most regard for the Wokingham runner-up Norgabe, who has had a much lighter season than many of her rivals and gained a listed race victory in Munich in July.

However, Glencroft still appears well-treated and the catch-me-if-you-can tactics which have been employed to such good effect in recent months should yield their biggest dividend to date.

My other principal fancy at Ayr is Own Free Will, who figures on an attractive mark in the Weir Memorial Trophy and the give underfoot she requires to produce her best.

Lynda Ramsden's three-year-old finished an excellent second to Per Quod, beaten only a head, on her latest race at Haydock 13 days ago and that form was given a timely fillip at Ayr on Wednesday when Per Quod successfully stepped up to listed race company in the Doonside Cup.

At Newbury, the consistent but luckless Princess Athena is given a narrow vote over her old rival, Young Hal, in the Marlborough Stakes.

David Elsworth's speedy filly had Young Hal behind when chasing home Proud And Keen at Ascot in June

and again when runner-up to Silver Fling at Sandown.

The pair meet on similar terms here but Young Hal could well head the market, having since run a cracking race when second to Point Of Light at Newmarket. However, Princess Athena is fancied to confirm her superiority.

The two-year-old races on this card traditionally throw up some top class performers and today's well-bred contestants are unlikely to prove an exception to that rule.

My best news in the Haynes, Hanson and Clark Stakes concerns the Northern Baby colt Moonfish, who represents the combination successful in this race five years ago with Rainbow Quest.

Michael Stoute saddled Milligram and Mamouna to finish first and second two years ago in the Jack Collier Memorial Stakes (formerly the Stable Star and Farm Stakes) and now introduces the \$400,000 daughter of Kris Aljoud.

Earlier in the afternoon, Richard Hannon looks the trainer to follow with Dowa The Valley (2.10) and Lady Of Shalott (2.40) both holding sound chances.

Blinkered first time
NEWBURY: 4.10 Breakaway, Lovely Paces. Ayr: 3.5 Prince Of The Giant, Super Sand. 4.40 North Lake.

Tancred Sand eyes rich Ascot prize

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Tancred Sand sent the holiday punters home happy when winning the Bogside Cup for the second year running at Ayr yesterday. Partnered by his 1987 winning jockey, Adam Shouls, the 11-4 favourite swept clear of his rivals, 1½ furlongs from home and the straight course in the sticky going to beat Hopping Around by a length.

Malcolm Jefferson's five-year-old will attempt to defy a 3lb penalty in the £65,000 Tote Field Handicap at Ascot tomorrow week in which he now has 7lb.

"He's got so much foot he went through them like a knife through butter," the Malton trainer said. "He's so well that he reared up on his hind legs and nearly went mad when he came out of the box on the course this morning."

With this afternoon's cavalcade, the Ayr Gold Cup, upmost in everybody's mind, maximum attention was focussed on the result of races run over the straight course.

In the Harry Rossby Challenge Trophy, over five furlongs, Michael Hills brought Petribia up the centre of the track to win by two lengths. That's The One, the second horse home, went from racing under the stands rails to join the winner.

"I want them to get the faster going," said the winning jockey. "But the ones on the rails were in front until I went on a furlong out."

Ian Matthews, trainer of the

runner-up, commented: "We drew but we were trying to give 11lb to the winner. It was a good performance and I think we're entitled to go for the Cornwallis Stakes at Ascot. The disappointments of the race were Wonder Dancer and Madam Millie, who finished fourth and last respectively."

Hills then put his theory into dramatic effect when completing a 104-1 double on Uncle Eric. In the Shaw Memorial Handicap, a 24-year-old contest

over the big-race distance of six furlongs, Uncle Eric was drawn six and Ned's Aura, who was beaten a head, drawn nine.

Musie Wood and B Grade, the first-backed third and fourth, beaten three lengths and two lengths respectively, were drawn 21 and 20.

Yesterday, ante-post backers were gambling on the low numbers having the advantage. The best-backed horse was Powder Blue, Peter Makin's Wokingham Stakes winner, who is drawn three. A bet of £5,000 each-way at 12-1 saw Powder Blue's price trimmed to 9-1 with William Hill.

There has also been significant late money for Tyrion Belle, who is drawn eight.

Ian Matthews, trainer of the

Francoe set to train again

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

John Francoe, the former champion National Hunt jockey, has won a prolonged battle with the planning authorities to build a new training complex in Lambourn.

The seven-times champion was due to attend a public inquiry next Tuesday after appealing against Newbury District Council's 1987 decision to refuse planning permission.

Yesterday, though, the council's area planning committee approved a slightly-revised application for the same site. The compromise scheme successfully overcame the council's previous objections that the complex would be unsightly in an area classed officially as being of outstanding natural beauty.

Francoe, champion seven times between 1975 and 1985, took up training on his retirement from the saddle in 1985 but temporarily gave up his new career last year, having sold his original yard before planning permission for the new site was refused.

Ray Cochrane reached the 100-winner mark for the second successive season with a double on Swing Shift and Rain Burst at Brighton yesterday.

He is the fifth jockey to reach his century this season and is well placed to beat last year's personal best of 111.

Ian Matthews, trainer of the

AYR

Selections

By Mandarin

2.05 Blue Orea.
2.35 Modesty On Ice.
3.05 GLENCROFT (nap).
4.10 Own Free Will.
4.40 Please Kneeh.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.05 —
2.35 — MODESTY ON ICE (nap).
3.05 —
3.40 —
4.10 —
4.40 —

By Michael Seely

3.40 GOLDEN ANCONA (nap). 4.40 Please Kneeh.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.35 MODESTY ON ICE.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-432 GOOD TIMES 74 (D.F.F.) (Mrs D Robinson) 8 Hail 9-10-0 S West (4) 88
Racecard number. Draw in brackets. 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CRICKET: A ZIMBABWEAN OF RARE QUALITY CARRIES WORCESTERSHIRE TO THE BRINK OF TITLE

Hick's 197 bears the stamp of champions

By John Woodcock

WORCESTER: Worcester, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 136 runs ahead of Glamorgan.

Another majestic innings by Graeme Hick has made it virtually certain that Worcestershire will be the county champions of 1988. With Kent carrying all before them at Canterbury, it became vital to Worcestershire that they gained all four bonus points for batting against Glamorgan yesterday, and Hick's 197 enabled them to do so, with 17 balls to spare.

With Maynard on a stick, after being hit while batting on Wednesday, and Glamorgan now 136 runs behind, something astonishing will have to happen, or the weather will need to intervene, if Worcestershire are not to clear their final hurdle by tomorrow night.

Yesterday the sun shone, quite warmly, on the young Zimbabwean, whose batting temperament was of a rare quality. Had he failed, Worcestershire would have been pushed to get two bonus points, let alone four.

Hick's was his fourteenth first-class hundred of 1988 and his tenth for Worcestershire. In his 177 first-class innings he has reached three figures 34 times, and he is still only 22. The ball moved about too much and bounced too unevenly for Hick's to be a flawless innings.

Glamorgan, in fact, had a thoroughly unlucky morning. But not until he was 168 did Hick give a clear-cut chance, and that was a difficult swing-into to slip. That the runs which took Worcestershire past 300 were also off the edge did nothing to lessen the cheers that greeted them. Hick at the time was 181.

The other most telling contributions to the Worcestershire effort came

from Lord and Neale. A stolid left-hander, Lord was the first to get the innings moving. Curtis had lost his off stump to Thomas in the seventh over of the day, an early indication that Worcestershire could take nothing for granted. Neale, for his part, came in when Lord and Leatherdale had been out in quick succession, at 110 for three, and Worcestershire still had a lot left to do.

He took some of the pressure off Hick, not with the runs he scored but simply by staying there. Of the first 60 they added together, Neale made four, when their partnership was worth 100 he was 17. Four or five years ago he was being moored as an England captain. The game has moved now into other hands, but Worcestershire owe him a considerable debt.

By the time Neale was out, at 253 in the 82nd over, the tension had lifted. Cann had been pressed into service to bowl some off-breaks — Glamorgan were without a regular spinner — and off one of them Neale was caught at backward short leg. Although Weston pulled another, a long hop, to deep square leg, the rest was mostly made up of the mastery of Hick. When, eventually, he crashed a long hop low to mid-wicket, he had hit 29 fours and scored more runs in a season (2,703) than any Worcestershire player before him.

Glamorgan's first innings 264 (M P Maynard 88, N V Radford 4 for 84).
T S Curran b Thomas 8
G J Lord b Derrick 157
A J Cresswell b Thomas 4
D A Leachman c Morrison b Easton 4
D A Neale c Robinson b Cann 29
M Wrenn c Bannister b Cann 45
J S Rhodes not out 45
P Newport not out 45
Extras (b 15, w 2, nb 8) 25
Total (6 wickets) 264

Worcestershire's first innings 277 (J Hick 197, N D Burns 56, V Marks 50).
J J E Hardy b Lloyd 10
M W Cresswell not out 20
Extras 0
Total (1 wicket) 277

GLAMORGAN'S first innings 264 (M P Maynard 88, N V Radford 4 for 84).
T S Curran b Thomas 8
G J Lord b Derrick 157
A J Cresswell b Thomas 4
D A Leachman c Morrison b Easton 4
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from Lord and Neale. A stolid left-hander, Lord was the first to get the innings moving. Curtis had lost his off stump to Thomas in the seventh over of the day, an early indication that Worcestershire could take nothing for granted. Neale, for his part, came in when Lord and Leatherdale had been out in quick succession, at 110 for three, and Worcestershire still had a lot left to do.

He took some of the pressure off Hick, not with the runs he scored but simply by staying there. Of the first 60 they added together, Neale made four, when their partnership was worth 100 he was 17. Four or five years ago he was being moored as an England captain. The game has moved now into other hands, but Worcestershire owe him a considerable debt.

By the time Neale was out, at 253 in the 82nd over, the tension had lifted. Cann had been pressed into service to bowl some off-breaks — Glamorgan were without a regular spinner — and off one of them Neale was caught at backward short leg. Although Weston pulled another, a long hop, to deep square leg, the rest was mostly made up of the mastery of Hick. When, eventually, he crashed a long hop low to mid-wicket, he had hit 29 fours and scored more runs in a season (2,703) than any Worcestershire player before him.

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Bailing out: Darren Bicknell, of Surrey, is bowled by Igglesden, of Kent. Report, page 46 (Photograph: Chris Barry)

Essex batsmen struggle to keep title hopes kindled

By Jack Bailey

CHELMSFORD: Essex, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 141 runs behind Northamptonshire.

Essex are up against it. They need a miracle to build on yesterday afternoon in an attempt to regain lost ground in the race for the championship, yet for all the endeavour of their first five batsmen, none of them was quite up to the task of building on yesterday's success. The game has moved now into other hands, but Worcestershire owe him a considerable debt.

By the time Neale was out, at 253 in the 82nd over, the tension had lifted. Cann had been pressed into service to bowl some off-breaks — Glamorgan were without a regular spinner — and off one of them Neale was caught at backward short leg. Although Weston pulled another, a long hop, to deep square leg, the rest was mostly made up of the mastery of Hick. When, eventually, he crashed a long hop low to mid-wicket, he had hit 29 fours and scored more runs in a season (2,703) than any Worcestershire player before him.

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took three good wickets and beat the bat on numerous occasions. Cook, broken thumb or not, played his part well. Northamptonshire added 39 precious runs to their overnight score, he bowled 25 overs at just over a run a piece and took the precious wickets of Stephenson and Waugh when both were going especially well.

Stephenson's was a strange dismissal. He drove a low skimmer to mid-on where Robinson bent and scooped. For some time everyone went through the motions as though nothing particular had happened. Then it transpired that both Robinson and the umpire thought a fair catch had been made and Stephenson, all be it reluctantly, was on his way.

By this time Gooch had spanned once too often at Lillee. The Essex Lilley held the fort well for nearly three hours until succumbing to a ball of full length. Waugh and Pritchard also played staunchly, but all too briefly before near darkness drove the players from the field.

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FOOTBALL: ROBSON FALLS BACK ON HIS TRIED AND TRUSTED TRIO DESPITE HIS FAITH IN THE YOUNG

The time is not ripe for youth to take over England helm

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The England manager, who asked Gascoigne, Rostace and Walker to play varying parts in the 1-0 victory over Denmark on Wednesday night, will resist the temptation to invite them back for the World Cup qualifying tie against Sweden on October 19. For the time being, according to Bobby Robson, youth has had its day.

Not that the three newcomers merit instant omission. Rostace, in particular, was "sound and did well defensively" but an evening shared with friendly opponents inside a half-empty arena does not represent an adequate dress rehearsal for the heavily significant occasion that lies only a month away.

Although the trio and Davis are sure to be involved in the visits to Morocco and Greece later in the season, they are not considered ready for the forthcoming ordeal. Robson would prefer instead to rely on his older and wiser representatives such as Barnes, Lineker and Stevens.

"The immediate future cannot yet lie in the hands of players like Gascoigne," he said yesterday. "First he has to adjust to being with a big club like Tottenham. He has had two games so far. In one he was brought off and in the other he died. Not literally, but he did die."

"Davis will take over from Bryan Robson eventually. Naturally left-footed, he has

been groomed in the under-21 side for that job over the last three years, but how can you leave the captain out after a magnificent performance like that? I've got a lot of faith in youngsters."

"I know as much about kids as any manager in the country. I had to operate a youth policy throughout my time at Ipswich Town. The ones coming through for England are good players, although they would be even better if our clubs were allowed to compete in Europe."

The talented Rostace combined adequately enough with a much-improved Stevens, especially as Arsenal's 21-year-old was granted only two days' practice with an unfamiliar right back. Yet he is likely to retain his place only if the damaged Achilles tendon of a more regular partner, Steven, has not sufficiently healed.

Walker "did not look out of place even when Stevens put him in trouble," but he, too, will not be selected as long as Butcher and Adams are available. After an ominously shaky opening with his partner, Butcher confirmed how sorely his influential presence was missed during the finals of the European Championship.

Gascoigne was introduced for the closing six minutes but in the previous 84 Webb had already earned the right to be considered as the captain's most effective foil. Although England's manager hailed

Webb as "our best player," his goal and his evening were made simple by Bryan Robson.

Harford, whose initial act was to commit a typical and unnecessarily distasteful foul, and Hodge were brought in temporarily to fill gaps. Luton Town's centre forward raised the height of an otherwise small front line but, apart from assisting in the creation of the goal, his display was undistinguished.

Under Johann Cruyff, Barcelona are employing only one forward, a tactic which threatens to delay Lineker's return to full fitness. Against Sweden his instincts will be necessary, as the penetrating runs down the flank of either Barnes or Waddle. As the understudy for the wingers, Hodge was no more than industrious.

Bobby Robson, aware that Wembley would be an eerie place, knew that it would be a strange night. The players had to generate their own spirit, but at least those who did turn up showed that they are genuine fans. There was no booing and, elsewhere in the world, a crowd of almost 26,000 would be considered more than reasonable."

He recognizes that the feeble concession to the Soviet Union in June reduced Wednesday's game to an estimated 10,000 spectators. He trusts that the triumph over Denmark has put another 35,000 on the attendance on October 19.



Gascoigne: the immediate future is not yet in his hands

Roxburgh to rely upon supporters

Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland coach has called on his team's supporters to provide the decisive influence on the home World Cup qualifying match against Yugoslavia on October 19.

Roxburgh said yesterday that within half an hour of Scotland's 1-0 win in Oslo on Wednesday, he was "thinking ahead to the next game" against Yugoslavia.

He said: "Yugoslavia are without doubt the top team in group five at the moment. They are technically gifted and have an abundance of talent. However, sometimes they struggle to handle things emotionally, and that is why I'm convinced that the most significant factor could be the 'Tartan Army'. I want them to turn out in numbers and intimidate Yugoslavia."

Yorath in good heart

Terry Yorath, manager of Wales, believes that his side's World Cup destiny could well be decided by goal difference (Ian Ross writes). His theory that Wales will share the points with their main group rivals, the Netherlands and West Germany, explained the general satisfaction he felt following Wednesday night's defeat in Amsterdam by the European champions.

While the Welsh performance possibly warranted a more tan-

Irish FA awaits retribution

By Clive White

Northern Ireland were left to count the cost yesterday of their goalless draw with the Republic of Ireland at Windsor Park on Wednesday. And it will almost certainly amount to more than lost ground in group five of the World Cup qualifying campaign.

David Bowen, the Irish FA secretary, fully expects his association to be fined by FIFA after a bottle was thrown onto the pitch in the second half. Despite the pomp action of Moran, the acting Republic captain, in removing the missile from the field with a minimum of fuss, it would seem that the incident did not escape the attention of Michel Vautour, the French referee.

It will not be the first time that the Irish FA has been before FIFA for such an incident. Seven years ago they were fined

1,000 Swiss Francs for similar crowd action in a World Cup qualifier against Portugal. But while Bowen expects a heavier fine this time he does not believe that they will suffer a similar fate to that of Linfield, the Irish club, who were ordered to play their next two home legs in European competition away from home following similar trouble last season.

"Apart from the bottle incident the Belgian observer from FIFA was extremely happy with the security, control and atmosphere on the way we handled things in such an atmosphere. There was a big police presence and only one or two arrests. We were absolutely delighted. This tie has been a bomb for us these past nine months."

On the field, apart from a couple of excessive tackles from McDonald and Whelan, both of

which met with bookings, the game was vigorously but fairly fought. While Jack Charlton, the Republic manager, seemed satisfied with his own side's performance, he was not happy with the result in the immediate aftermath, believing that they should have won the tie, the Republic's point may prove to be an invaluable one.

If the Republic can sustain the impetus which carried them through the European Championship finals in the next two matches, both away, against Spain in November and Hungary next March, they may find themselves sitting pretty with a run of four home ties to follow.

Tottenham's hopes of having Paul McGrath, the Republic of Ireland defender, in their side to face Liverpool tomorrow were dashed yesterday when the proposed £700,000 deal with Manchester United was held up.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING: Group four: The Netherlands 1, Wales 0. Group five: Norway 1, Scotland 2. Group six: Northern Ireland 0, Republic of Ireland 0.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES (Wembley): England 1, Denmark 0. (Owens; Spain 1, Yugoslavia 2. (La Senne; Chile 3, Ecuador 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 1: Denmark 1, West Germany 2. Group 2: France 1, Netherlands 1. Group 3: Spain 1, Portugal 1. Group 4: Italy 1, Greece 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 5: Scotland 1, Norway 1. Group 6: Sweden 1, Finland 1. Group 7: Czech Republic 1, Hungary 1. Group 8: Poland 1, Bulgaria 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 9: Romania 1, Yugoslavia 1. Group 10: USSR 1, Armenia 1. Group 11: Georgia 1, Azerbaijan 1. Group 12: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 13: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 14: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 15: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 16: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 17: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 18: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 19: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 20: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 21: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 22: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 23: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 24: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 25: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 26: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 27: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 28: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 29: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 30: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 31: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 32: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 33: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 34: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 35: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 36: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 37: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 38: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 39: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 40: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

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EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 49: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 50: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 51: Armenia 1, Georgia 1. Group 52: Armenia 1, Georgia 1.

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SPORT

tomorrow...

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Virginia Leng
riding
high for
British
success

The spirit
of the Games
past and
present

Surrey collapse to Igglesden and a knockout

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

CANTERBURY: Surrey, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, need 166 runs to avoid an innings defeat.

Alan Igglesden achieved the best batting and bowling of his career as Kent did everything possible to keep their title hopes alive on a hectic, dramatic day, scarred by an alarming injury to the Surrey captain, Ian Greig.

Igglesden contributed 41 to a last-wicket stand of 82 at the start of the day. Then, in the more familiar guise of a bowler of classic action and deceptive pace, he provoked a spectacular Surrey collapse with a spell of six wickets for four runs in 23 balls.

Forced to follow on 245 behind, Surrey face defeat today on a pitch of increasingly untrustworthy bounce. It is hard to imagine how Surrey could have had a more miserable day. Not only have they been thoroughly outplayed, they also suffered the sight of Greig being taken to hospital, semi-conscious, after being struck full in the face while trying to hook a short ball from Penn.

There were clear signs of anxiety among the players as Greig lay motionless on the ground for several minutes. He was taken by ambulance to the nearby Kent and Canterbury hospital but his injuries were found to be relatively minor and he was released within an hour.

The incident did raise some worrying questions. Kent had to make a public-address appeal for a doctor when one should surely be present at every first-class match.

The fact that Greig's helmet grille was broken by the blow suggests more stringent safety standards should be applied to the headgear. By coincidence, Clinton, the Surrey opening batsman, was struck on the head by Ellison. His helmet was also cracked and had to be changed.

Greig's misfortune deflected attention from a remarkable performance by

Igglesden, who has taken 36 wickets in six matches since returning from a long-term knee injury. It was a day when he could do no wrong.

In the morning, his effective basic batting brought Kent bonus runs as, with Ellison, he added 47 in eight overs. Then, after an unimpressive new-ball spell of four overs for 22, he came back after lunch to wreck the Surrey innings.

There had been no warning. Clinton and Bicknell had put on 70 for the first wicket against some undistinguished bowling. Clinton chipped Cowdrey's slower ball to mid-on and Stewart was bowled by one which kept low.

Lynch unwittingly hastened the collapse with a kamikaze impression. Hobbled on two injured knees, he set off for an optimistic single to mid-on. Ward hit the stumps, underarm, to claim the first of seven wickets Kent were to take for nine runs.

Igglesden was responsible for all the rest. Once he had bowled Bicknell off the inside edge, further resistance was negligible and the last four wickets fell without a run coming from the bat. Kent's supporters, and there were a sizeable number, could hardly contain themselves.

The dampener to the excitement was the news filtering through from Worcester. Kent know that even a win with maximum points, something they have not achieved all season, may not be sufficient. They can, however, be proud of their efforts here and by dismissing Bicknell and Stewart for a second time

Cowdrey investigation

Christopher Cowdrey's recent newspaper criticism of the England selectors could yet land him in hot water at Lord's. The TCCB announced yesterday that an investigating panel was being set up to look into the matter and report back to the discipline committee.

The Kent skipper complained of what he called "shabby treatment" after

being dropped from the England captaincy. Kent, who discussed the matter at executive committee level, merely issued him with a caution. The TCCB obviously feel this was insufficient.

Leicestershire have resigned their former player, Gordon Parsons, who left them three years ago to join Warwickshire.

KENT: First Innings
M R Benson bow to Trent
S G Hinks c and b Frost 7
T R Ward b M P Bicknell 26
T Toward c Richards b M P Bicknell 26
R F Penner c Richards b M P Bicknell 26
C S Cowdrey bow to Fotherham 30
D R Cowdrey c Lynch b Fotherham 30
T S A Marsh b Fotherham 30
C Penn c Richards b Fotherham 19
M Ellison not out 41
A P Igglesden b Fotherham 41
Extras (b 6, lb 6, w 1, nb 0) 21
Total (37 overs) 354
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-39, 3-153, 4-191, 5-202, 6-216, 7-216, 8-269, 9-292.
BOWLING: Penn 17-3-0-2, M P Bicknell 37-12-11-3, Fotherham 34-5-12-4, Greig 3-0-23-0, Medcort 6-1-18-0.

SURREY: First Innings
G S Clinton c Ward b C S Cowdrey 31
D J Bicknell c Igglesden 13
A J Stewart b Igglesden 13
M A Lynch run out 17
T J Medcort b Igglesden 17
T C J Richards c Marsh b Igglesden 10
T A Greig retired hurt 10
T T Medcort b Igglesden 10
M A Fotherham bow to Igglesden 10
M P Bicknell not out 10
M Frost b Igglesden 10
Extras (b 2, lb 13) 15
Total (37 overs) 109
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-70, 2-86, 3-100, 4-100, 5-105, 6-108, 7-109, 8-109, 9-109.
BOWLING: Penn 12-3-37-0, Igglesden 11-3-34-6, Ellison 8-4-16-1, C S Cowdrey 6-2-1.

Second Innings
G S Clinton not out 42
D J Bicknell c C S Cowdrey b Penn 42
A J Stewart b C S Cowdrey 13
M A Lynch not out 17
Extras (w 1, nb 1) 1
Total (20 overs) 75
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-58.
Bonus points: Kent 8, Surrey 4.
Umpires: P B Wright and M J Kitchen.

Hooper record
Werneth, the Oldham-based Lancashire league club, have paid a club record fee to re-sign the West Indies Test player, Carl Hooper, as their professional for next season. Werneth have beaten off competition from several other league clubs to sign Hooper, who set a league batting record of 1,715 runs when he was professional at the club in 1986.

There has, up to now, been no positive response from the Test and County Cricket Board, probably because they are baffled by such back-peddling. From this distance it is as if the Indians have decided that, if they cannot have the Games, the tour might as well take place after all.

It is not clear whether Mrs Alva's remarks have the full sanction of her government superiors in New Delhi. Neither, more pertinently, is it clear precisely what pledges she has in mind from the blacklisted players.

If India requires any player to sever contacts with South Africa by promising never to return, the idea is a non-starter. The TCCB would be falling in its duty if it so much as asked the players to sign.

If, on the other hand, all that is required is a broad abhorrence of apartheid, the players would only be making their private feelings public. It would, however, be a synthetic compromise and an amazing Indian climbdown which I find it very difficult to envisage.

Alan Smith, chief executive of the TCCB, said last night that the matter will be discussed again at an executive meeting of the board on Sunday. Of yesterday's developments he said: "I want to find out exactly what they are asking. There are declarations and declarations. If this involved a player stating he would never go to South Africa I would have thought it was wholly impractical."

While I am delighted for Lillehammer, Norway, who will provide the Games with picturesque, traditional, non-commercial ambience, I am alarmed that the unwarranted initiative of Ivo Slavkov, Bulgaria's progressive IOC member may prove harmful to the Olympic movement and at home to him.

Both decisions were conditioned by elements of self-interest, but it is the first which is so disturbing, not to say disgraceful. Here was the opportunity for a long delayed gesture to the third world, for the first Asian Commonwealth Games and only the second outside white-orientated Britain. Australia, Canada and New Zealand, Kingston, Jamaica were the 1966 hosts. Inexplicably, the black

Caribbeans and some of the Africans preferred the creature comforts of Western Canada to the aspirations of their fellow non-whites in India. So much for Third World solidarity.

Victoria's promises of assistance with air tickets and of advanced training facilities outweighed any judgement of humanitarian priorities. White finance won again; and never mind the future. A passionate speech by Margaret Alva, the Indian Minister of Youth and Sport, was to no avail. Some of the third world were looking for five-star hotels and freebies.

Brian Wightman, the former British rugby international, who is the General Secretary of the Tonga Olympic Committee, said afterwards: "This is not the fault of the big countries, but of many of the small nations and islands without resources, who are looking for help, not for principles". With such introspection, it is difficult to see how the Games, and indeed the Commonwealth itself, can survive.

Some representatives of black nations felt, regrettably, that Alva was hectoring. But there is another aspect which India should consider in its mood of disappointment and affront.

It is that the non-white sporting interest may not be well served by the constant

Worthy standard-bearer earns opening ceremony honour



Capping it all: leading the British team tomorrow will be the pinnacle of Taylor's sporting career (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Indians make an offer to tour eight

By Alan Lee

The cynical side of sporting politics was flaunted yesterday. No sooner had India failed in its efforts to stage the next Commonwealth Games than its government was announcing an extraordinary change of stance on the apparently doomed England cricket tour.

Less than a week ago India's Foreign Ministry ruled out the possibility of the tour being saved by the previously used expedient of blacklisted players signing declarations against South African apartheid. Yesterday in Seoul Mrs Margaret Alva, the country's sports minister, suggested the tour could go ahead if such statements were given by all eight players who have so far been refused a visa.

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Third World divisions thwart Indian hopes

From John Goodbody, Seoul

Victoria, Canada, was yesterday awarded the 1994 Commonwealth Games, finishing ahead of New Delhi in a 29-18 vote of seething controversy. The Indian, who had failed to attend the 1990 Games in Auckland she replied: "The question does not arise."

New Delhi already has a site ready for the 10 sports and successfully staged the 1982 Asian Games. Victoria, which is situated on Vancouver Island, has only two facilities completely ready and will have to enlarge its main stadium. But it has £40 million of funds promised from federal and provincial government and more money from sponsors.

But what was perhaps the decisive factor was that Victoria had given assurances that it would organize charter flights to bring competitors from Third World countries to Western Canada but Peter Healy, the chairman of the Commonwealth Games Federation said: "What has been offered is no more than is allowed under the constitution."

As David Dixon, the secretary of the federation said: "It was not a case of the white Commonwealth dominating

the voting. There was democracy today and that is the result."

Canada also approached the voting in a professional manner. David Black, the chairman of the Victoria Promotions Committee said: "We got to know all the Delegates - what their needs were."

A fine management team is in place and there is the necessary funding. When you get good people with good money in a good environment you can do anything. The delegates knew our Games would be a great Games."

Bill Herbert, the Mayor of Cardiff, said: "I think the cricket tour could have affected the voting. There is a difficulty in many delegates minds of separating Wales and England. Wales is part of the United Kingdom but for the Games it is a nation on its own."

It had little chance of standing up to Canada, which has staged the 1976 Olympics, 1978 Commonwealth Games and the 1988 Winter Olympics. The farewell words of Jean Charest, Canada's Minister for Sport, were: "See you soon - when we get the 1996 Olympics." Toronto is one of the favourites.

politically-orientated involvement of Sam Ramsamy, the Chairman of the so-called South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee.

While I have every sympathy with Ramsamy's motives and principles, SANROC is a wholly non-sporting body, with no right to the Olympic suffix. Militant non-white campaigning, in a situation devoid of apartheid - leaving aside the fringe irrelevance of Cardiff's bid - may well be negatively influential.

Yet what of the failure of Sofia, the supposed favourites for the winter games, runners-up to Albertville two years ago. The IOC members seemingly took no account of *Glasnost*, of the socialist renaissance in Seoul with the Olympic movement, of Slavkov's conspicuously outspoken attempt to transcend the conventional attitudes of an in-line communist state.

Its representatives may well ask whether they should bother trying again. They are extremely disillusioned that their elimination came on the first vote.

On the third vote, 15 of the Anchorage votes switched to Lillehammer who beat Ostersund, 45-39. Why?

The accepted answer yesterday evening was that Anchorage's vote was primarily American, North and South, and that the South Americans were reacting to the failure of any of their three candidates in the morning's vote for positions on the executive board, when those elected were Ericsson (Sweden) and Kim Un Yong (South Korea).

By such subjectivity is the IOC ruled.

Taylor leaps at leading role

From Simon Barnes
Seoul

They could have given the honour to any one of our glamorous sporting superstars, but they did not. They gave it to a schoolteacher instead. They gave it to the chisel who is head of junior school science.

Sports administrators are mostly famous for getting it wrong. But this time they have got it absolutely right. They asked Ian Taylor to carry the British flag at the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games: there could be no better choice.

Taylor is the hockey goalkeeper, the madman in the mask who dresses himself up in mattresses and flings himself at the opposition. He stands for battles against the odds, he stands for success of the most improbable kind. The British hockey team, you will remember, only reached the Olympics last time because the Soviet Union pulled out. The team won the bronze. The phenomenal science teacher was the factor that gave Britain their edge.

Taylor was in a glow of patriotic pride after hearing the news about his flag-carrying duties. He will be leading the British team in the procession - but not the entire British team, of course. Some of them are too grand to attend, some of them feel that attending ceremonies might

Rivals' work closes on draw

Seoul - Great Britain and Australia, both seeking the gold medal in hockey at the Olympics, drew 2-2 yesterday in a lively friendly which completed the preparation for both sides who are not in the same group and could meet either in the semi-finals or the final (Sydney Friskin writes). Australia, the World Cup holders, should have won and their coach, Richard Aggias, explained why they did not. "We missed several sitters," he said. Roger Self, the British manager, described the exercise as useful.

disrupt their sacred preparations.

"I feel very sorry for them. I have had a long and, at times, distinguished career," he said, without false modesty. "And this is the pinnacle. It is the greatest honour that can be bestowed upon any athlete."

It comes particularly approposely: this will be Taylor's last Olympics. In fact, the last match Britain play in the competition will be Taylor's last competitive hockey match. I hope it is the final, and a victorious one at that.

The nice thing about Taylor and his colleagues is not that they really are genuine amateurs, but that they are perfectly balanced about their amateurism. They do not thrust it in your face, like rugby players, and they do not whine and snipe about the people who make money from sport.

Taylor kept wanting to talk about his colleagues, and the skill and sportsmanship of the British team. "We all go to work for a living and play hockey as a recreation. All our families and employers make sacrifices for us."

The honour to him, he insisted, was a tribute to the good name of hockey "and it has got a good name. It has a name for hard, competitive play, and for sportsmanship, for speed and for excitement. There is no question about it. When I look back on past matches, it is not for what I have done, it's for what the team has done, and what the team has done for hockey. I'm only one-sixteenth of the squad, I'm only one one hundred and fifty thousandth of hockey."

As Taylor prepares to leave his sport - he will be 35 on Saturday week - he says he must repay employer and family for their various sacrifices. He will still do a little hockey coaching. But this is his last fling. He ended very properly by saying how much he owed to his wife Julie.

You can be as cynical as you like about all the flag-waving that goes on at the Olympics. But it is impossible to be cynical about such people as Taylor: people who, in a naughty world, manage to give the Olympic Games a good name.

Another Piggott makes her mark

Maureen Piggott, the latest member of the famous racing family to hold a training licence, saddled her first winner when Cleamoure landed the Ron Laxon Stakes at Yarmouth yesterday.

The 13-8 on favourite made all the running in the hands of John Reid to beat Sea Saga by 1½ lengths.

With her father, Lester, serving a three-year prison sentence for tax evasion, and her mother, Susan, still seriously ill in hospital following her fall on the gallops, the task of training the 97 horses at the family's Eve Lodge stables in Newmarket has fallen to their elder daughter.

As Cleamoure returned to cheers from the enthusiastic Yarmouth crowd packed round the winner's enclosure, Miss Piggott said: "The whole training operation goes on just the same."

"It doesn't matter whose name is on the licence. We are carrying out the job in the way father and mother did, and it's a marvelous team effort from all concerned."

Miss Piggott, aged 28, has only held the licence for two weeks. She confirmed that her mother, who was taken off her life-supporting ventilator machine last week, is making encouraging progress.

Racing, pages 43-44

IN BRIEF

Medal hope for Hodge

The British Cycling Federation has offered to pay for a set of three world championship medals to ensure that Sally Hodge, the winner of the women's 30km points race during last month's series in Belgium, receives her gold medal.

The absence of medals at the event was believed to be a result of the Union Cycliste Internationale decision to upgrade the event from a demonstration race at three days' notice.

Rich rugby
Birmingham rugby union club have been offered over £3 million by developers for their 35-acre Portway site.

North bound
The North have been forced to make two changes to their side to face a World XV at Gateshead on Sunday. The Sale scrum-half, George Daggart, and Simon Langford, of Orrell, are included.

Angling haul
An Eastbourne builder, Ron Yates, caught 34lb 10oz of coalfish, pollack and wrasse off the island of Sark to win the TVS angling competition.

League fillip
Rugby league in London will receive a boost with the appointment of a full-time amateur development officer.

Lemond moves
Bordeaux (Reuter) - Greg Lemond, the American cyclist who rides for the Dutch PDM team, will join Team Fagor if doctors say he has fully recovered from a shooting accident.

New challenge
A new international table tennis tournament, the Leeds Challenge, will be held in Perth on November 5.

Mason chance
An elimination series for the British heavyweight boxing title, held by Horace Norton, pits Gary Mason against Jess Harding and Noel Quarless against Trevor Currie.

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Olympics Guide and Simon Barnes, page 42